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Official
Yearbook
1985
and Official
Statistical
Yearbook

PRO FOOTBALL

\$2.50

1985
1984
1983

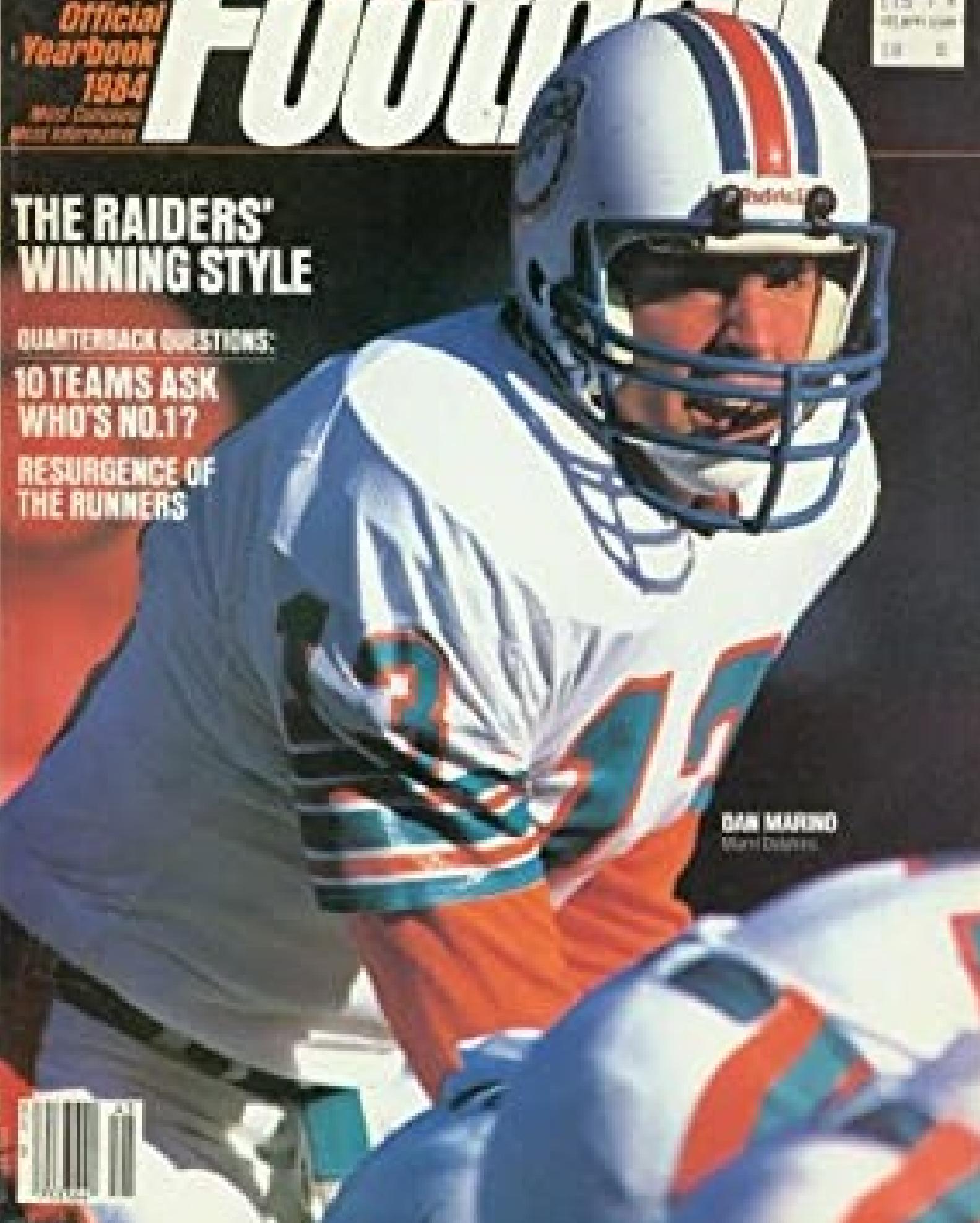
THE RAIDERS' WINNING STYLE

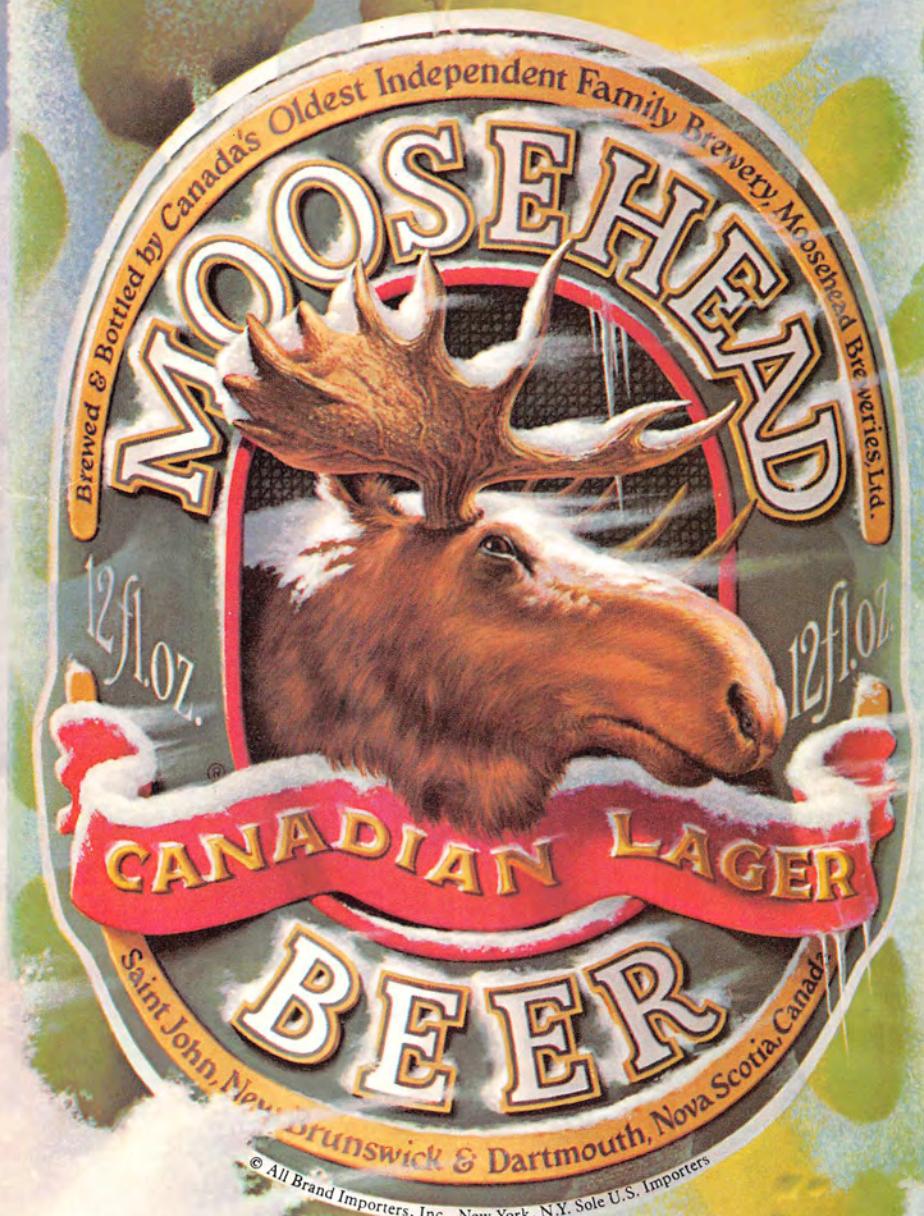
QUARTERBACK QUESTIONS:

10 TEAMS ASK
WHO'S NO. 1?

RESURGENCE OF
THE RUNNERS

DAN MARINO
Miami Dolphins





Stands head and antlers above the rest.

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WHO ARE YOU

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF....

From time to time we at **STREET & SMITH PRO FOOTBALL** have questions we'd like to ask our readers. To do this we need help from many of you—even those who don't often answer questionnaires. We won't take much of your time, and who knows, you may even win a video cassette recorder from SONY. Just fill in this brief questionnaire and mail the form as soon as possible. Thank you!

1. Which of these other **STREET & SMITH SPORTS MAGAZINES** do you read? (Please check as many as apply). College Football Yearbook 5-1 Basketball Yearbook -2 Baseball Yearbook -3
2. Please indicate your opinion below for each of the following features appearing in Pro Football Yearbook.

| | <u>Very Interesting</u> | <u>Fairly Interesting</u> | <u>Slightly Interesting</u> | <u>No Interest</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Previews | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 6- |
| TV Game Schedules | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 7- |
| Season Schedules | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 8- |
| Action Photographs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 9- |
| Advertising/Coupons | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 10- |
| Personality Interviews | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 11- |
| Feature Stories | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 12- |
| | (-1) | (-2) | (-3) | (-4) |

3. How much of this book would you say you read?
All or Practically All 13-1 About $\frac{3}{4}$ -2 About $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{4}$ or Less -4
4. About how often do you refer to the Pro Football Yearbook during the season?
Frequently 14-1 Occasionally -2 Rarely -3 Never -4
5. Not including yourself, how many other friends or family members will read or look through your copy of Pro Football Yearbook?
Number of Males _____ 15-16 Number of Females _____ 17-18

6. In an average week what percentage of your television viewing is spent watching college and professional sports events?
100% 19-1 75%-100% -2 50%-75% -3 25%-50% -4 Less than 25% -5

PASSENGER CARS

- 7a. How many passenger cars, including station wagons, vans, and 4-wheel drive cars are currently owned by all the people in your household?

Number of Cars owned _____ 20 None -y

| For each car currently owned, please indicate: | <u>First Car</u> | <u>Second Car</u> | <u>Third Car</u> |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| b. Make (i.e. Oldsmobile, Mercury, Toyota, BMW) | 21- | 26- | 31- |
| c. Model (i.e. Toronado, Cougar Celica, 318) | 22- | 27- | 32- |
| d. Year Model | 23- | 28- | 33- |
| e. Indicate if car was bought new or used: New | <input type="checkbox"/> 25-1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30-1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 35-1 |
| Used | <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | <input type="checkbox"/> -2 |

- 8a. Do you or other members of your household plan to buy a car in the next 12 months?

Yes 36-1 No -2

b. If yes, will it be a:

Domestic Car 37-1

Imported Car -2

Not sure -3

WHO ARE YOU

SMOKING

9. Do you smoke:

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Menthol Filter Cigarettes.. | <input type="checkbox"/> 38-1 | Non-Menthol Filter Cigarettes.. | <input type="checkbox"/> -3 | Non-Filter Cigarettes.... | <input type="checkbox"/> -5 |
| Cigars | <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | Cigarillos/Little or Small Cigars | <input type="checkbox"/> -4 | Pipe Tobacco | <input type="checkbox"/> -6 |
| | | | | None of these | <input type="checkbox"/> -7 |

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

10. Please "X" those beverages that you personally drink either at home or away from home. If you have mixed drinks, such as whiskey sours, record the type of liquor they contain.

Finally, please write in how many drinks or glasses of each beverage you had in the last 7 days.

| | Personally Drink | Number of Drinks in Last 7 Days | | Personally Drink | Number of Drinks in Last 7 Days |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Blended whiskey or rye | <input type="checkbox"/> 39-1 | 40-41 | Table wine (white, red, rose): | | |
| Bourbon whiskey | <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | 42-43 | Domestic | <input type="checkbox"/> 64-1 | 5-6 |
| Canadian whisky | <input type="checkbox"/> -3 | 44-45 | Imported | <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | 7-8 |
| Scotch whisky | <input type="checkbox"/> -4 | 46-47 | Apertif & specialty wines.... | <input type="checkbox"/> -3 | 9-10 |
| Irish whiskey | <input type="checkbox"/> -5 | 48-49 | Cordials or liqueurs..... | <input type="checkbox"/> -4 | 11-12 |
| Rum..... | <input type="checkbox"/> -6 | 50-51 | Domestic Beer (light)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> -5 | 13-14 |
| Gin | <input type="checkbox"/> -7 | 52-53 | Domestic Beer (regular)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> -6 | 15-16 |
| Vodka..... | <input type="checkbox"/> -8 | 54-55 | Imported Beer | <input type="checkbox"/> -7 | 17-18 |
| Tequila..... | <input type="checkbox"/> -9 | 56-57 | Sangria/pop/party wines | <input type="checkbox"/> -8 | 19-20 |
| Port, Sherry & Dessert Wines | <input type="checkbox"/> -0 | 58-59 | Imported champagne | <input type="checkbox"/> -9 | 21-22 |
| Brandy or Cognac | <input type="checkbox"/> -x | 60-61 | Domestic champagne | <input type="checkbox"/> -0 | 23-24 |
| Vermouth | <input type="checkbox"/> -y | 62-63 | Bottled natural spring or mineral waters | <input type="checkbox"/> -x | 25-26 |
| | | | None of these | <input type="checkbox"/> -y | |

CHARACTERISTICS

11. Are you: Male 27-1 Female -2

12. Your age:

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 28-1 | 30-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> -4 | 45-49 | <input type="checkbox"/> -7 | 60-64 | <input type="checkbox"/> -0 |
| 18-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | 35-39 | <input type="checkbox"/> -5 | 50-54 | <input type="checkbox"/> -8 | 65 or over | <input type="checkbox"/> -x |
| 25-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> -3 | 40-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> -6 | 55-59 | <input type="checkbox"/> -9 | | |

13. What is your marital status?

Single 29-1

Married -2

Widowed, Divorced, Separated -3

14. Which of the following best describes your present employment status?

Employed Full-time 30-1

Employed Part-Time -2

Not Employed -3

If employed full or part time:

15a. What is your particular job called? _____ 31-

b. Does the job have a title? What is it? _____ 32-

c. Please indicate below the annual income you personally get from your job before taxes:

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Less than \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 33-1 | \$15,000-19,999 .. <input type="checkbox"/> -3 | \$25,000-\$34,999 <input type="checkbox"/> -5 | \$50,000 or more <input type="checkbox"/> -7 |
| \$10,000-\$14,999 .. <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | \$20,000-\$24,999 <input type="checkbox"/> -4 | \$35,000-\$49,999 <input type="checkbox"/> -6 | |

16. What is the highest level you completed in school?

Some High School or Less 34-1 Attended College Less than 1 year -3 College Graduate

High School Graduate..... -2 Attended College 1-3 years

Professional or Graduate

School After 4 year College -6

17. What is the total combined annual income before taxes of all members of your household, including yourself; that is, income from jobs as well as any other source?

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Less than \$15,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 35-1 | \$25,000-\$34,999 <input type="checkbox"/> -3 | \$50,000-\$74,999 <input type="checkbox"/> -5 | \$100,000 or more... <input type="checkbox"/> -7 |
| \$15,000-\$24,999 .. <input type="checkbox"/> -2 | \$35,000-\$49,999 <input type="checkbox"/> -4 | \$75,000-\$99,999 <input type="checkbox"/> -6 | |

Optional: If you wish to be entered in the sweepstakes, please fill in your name, address, and phone number.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

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| | | | |
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| 1983 Tops Traded (132) | 13.00 | 1980 Kellogg's (60) | 15.00 |
| 1983 Tops Stickers (330) | 24.00 | 1979 Kellogg's (60) | 32.50 |
| 1983 Fleer (660) | 14.00 | 1978 Kellogg's (57) | 40.00 |
| 1983 Donruss (660) | 16.50 | 1977 Kellogg's (57) | 35.00 |
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| 1982 Tops Traded (132) | 13.50 | 1981 Fleer All Star Stickers (128) | 35.00 |
| 1982 Tops Stickers (260) | 26.00 | 1959 Fleer Ted Williams (79) w/o #68 | 100.00 |
| 1982 Fleer (660) | 21.00 | 1979 Fleer Ted Williams (79) w/o #68 | 100.00 |
| 1982 Donruss (660) | 17.50 | 1981 Tops (726) | 26.00 |
| 1981 Tops (726) | 26.00 | 1981 Tops (396) | \$13.00 |
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| 1981 Fleer (660) | 23.00 | 1981 Tops (528) | 22.00 |
| 1981 Donruss (605) | 21.00 | 1981 Tops Stickers (262) | 31.00 |
| 1980 Tops (726) | 38.00 | 1981 Tops Stickers Test (28) | 10.50 |
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| 1979 Tops (726) (Wills-Blue Jays) | 42.50 | 1980 Tops (528) | 12.50 |
| 1978 Tops (726) | 60.00 | 1978 Fleer NFL in Action (68) | 20.00 |
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| 1982 Kellogg's (64) | 11.50 | 1978-79 Topps (132) | 13.00 |
| | | | 25.00 |

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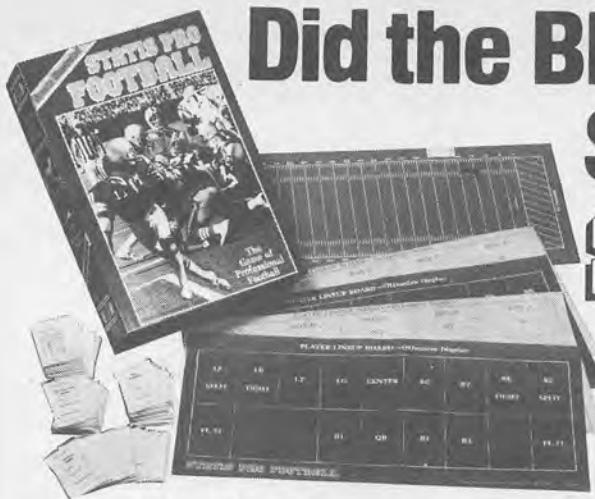
| | |
|--|----------|
| 1968 — Series #3 (197-283) includes Bench, Rookies, Mantle, Yaz, Kaline, Rose, Killebrew | \$100.00 |
| Series #4 (284-370) includes 10 Sporting News All Stars, Banks, Maris, McCovey, Staub | 45.00 |
| Series #5 (458-533) includes Bird Belters (F. Robby, B. Robby), Brock, F. Robinson, Super Stars Card | 40.00 |
| Series #7 (534-598) includes Wood, Hise, Palmer, Bouton (scarce) | 35.00 |
| 1969 — Series #1 (1-109) includes League Leaders, Banks, Brock, Clemente, Bench, Aarón, Morgan, M. Wills | 75.00 |
| Series #2 (110-218) includes World Series cards, Mays, Rose, Yaz, J. Perry, Gibson, Bunning | 100.00 |
| Series #4 (238-425) includes 10 Sporting News All Stars, Kaline, Drysdale, Killebrew, Marichal | 60.00 |
| Series #5 (426-512) includes 10 Sporting News All Stars, Mantle, Carew, McCovey, Seaver, G. Perry | 65.00 |
| Series #6 (513-588) includes Palmer, Hodges, Stargell, B. Robinson, Ryan, Martin, Santo | 50.00 |
| Series #7 (589-664) includes T. Williams, Jenkins, McCraw, Olivia, Bonds, R. Smith, Murcer (scarce) | 80.00 |
| 1970 — Series #2 (133-263) includes McCovey, Munson Rookie, R. Jackson, Killebrew, Carlton, B. Robinson | 60.00 |
| Series #3 (264-372) includes Clemente, Seaver, Brock, World Series cards, Hise | 55.00 |
| Series #4 (373-459) includes 10 Sporting News All Stars, Aaron, Morgan, 10 Star, Star, Gibson, Olivia | 45.00 |
| Series #5 (460-546) includes 10 Sporting News All Stars, Aaron, Morgan, Star, Star, Gibson, Olivia | 50.00 |
| Series #6 (547-633) includes Mays, Rose, Hunter, Banks, M. Wills, Staub, G. Perry | 100.00 |
| Series #7 (634-720) includes Kaline, F. Robinson, Ryan, Lolich, Santo (scarce) | 140.00 |
| 1971 — Series #1 (1-132) includes League Leaders, Munson, R. Jackson, Rose, McCovey, Carlton, Hunter | 85.00 |
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| Series #3 (264-393) includes Garvey, B. Robinson, Foster Rookie, Morgan, World Series cards | 75.00 |
| Series #4 (394-523) includes Aaron, Gibson, Ryan, John, Luzinski Rookie | 50.00 |
| 1972 — Series #1 (1-132) includes Mays, Yaz, B. Robinson, Morgan, Gibson, League Leaders, Killebrew | 60.00 |
| Series #2 (133-263) includes Brock, Blue, Powell, Foster, World Series cards, McGraw | 55.00 |
| Series #3 (264-394) includes Aaron, Clemente, McCovey, Hunter, G. Perry, Palmer John, Kid Pictures | 60.00 |
| Series #6 (657-787) includes Garvey, Carew, (Carlton, F. Robinson, Morgan-traded) (scarce) | 200.00 |
| 1973 — Series #1 (1-132) includes Aaron, Rose, Clemente, B. Robinson, League Leaders | 75.00 |
| Series #2 (133-264) includes Yaz, Jackson, Garvey, Fisk, Palmer, Gossage, Munson | 55.00 |
| Series #3 (265-396) includes Kaline, Carlton, Mays, Carew, Seaver, Stargell, Bench, Brock | 55.00 |
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contents

6 BETWEEN THE LINES
9 RESURGENCE OF THE RUNNING BACKS
by Don Pierson, Chicago Tribune
19 1984 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE
20 THE RAIDERS' WINNING STYLE
by John Blanchette, Spokesman-Review
24 AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
by Larry Felser, Buffalo News
26 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS
28 SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
30 SEATTLE SEAHAWKS
33 DENVER BRONCOS
36 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS
38 PITTSBURGH STEELERS
41 CINCINNATI BENGALS
45 CLEVELAND BROWNS
47 HOUSTON OILERS
50 WHO'S NUMBER ONE?
by Larry Felser, Buffalo News
57 NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS
59 MIAMI DOLPHINS
63 BUFFALO BILLS
67 NEW YORK JETS
70 INDIANAPOLIS COLTS
72 NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
by Don Pierson, Chicago Tribune
74 WASHINGTON REDSKINS
76 DALLAS COWBOYS
79 ST. LOUIS CARDINALS
83 PHILADELPHIA EAGLES
86 NEW YORK GIANTS
89 PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP
97 NEW ORLEANS SAINTS
99 LOS ANGELES RAMS
103 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS
106 ATLANTA FALCONS
108 DETROIT LIONS
110 CHICAGO BEARS
115 GREEN BAY PACKERS
119 MINNESOTA VIKINGS
122 TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS
124 THE USFL REPORT
by Bill Connors, Tulsa World
128 HALL OF FAME
137 CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE
by Rick Matsumoto, Toronto Star
148 1983 AFC FINAL STATISTICS
158 1983 NFC FINAL STATISTICS

22nd year

Street & Smith's Official Yearbook
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On sale March 13, 1984

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On sale July 10, 1984

Street and Smith's Official Yearbook
COLLEGE FOOTBALL

On sale August 14, 1984

Street and Smith's Official Yearbook
BASKETBALL

On sale October 16, 1984

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BETWEEN THE LINES

Last summer, after a careful reading of our crystal ball, we predicted a confrontation between the Dallas Cowboys and the New York Jets in Super Bowl XVIII in Tampa, Florida. The common refrain we heard in response was, "Aw, everybody's picking them."

True, it was a conservative forecast. Dallas had an enviable success rate in the National Football Conference, with 17 winning seasons in 18 years. The Cowboys had advanced to the NFC title game in each of the three previous seasons, losing to the Philadelphia Eagles in 1981 and to the eventual Super Bowl champions in both 1982 (the San Francisco 49ers) and '83 (the Washington Redskins).

The Jets, while not nearly so consistent, were on the rise, acting like contenders for their first Super trip since 1969. They had posted successive road wins over the defending American Conference champion Cincinnati Bengals and the Los Angeles Raiders to reach the AFC finals in 1983. In that game, a quagmire that passed for a playing field grounded the Jets' Freeman McNeil and Miami linebacker A.J. Duhe intercepted three of quarterback Richard Todd's passes as New York lost, 14-0.

So, though Dallas and New York ended the 1982-83 campaign on a losing note, the new season hinted at greater prosperity. Just to be safe, the Cowboys would put their computer through two-a-day workouts. The Jets, apparently having come of age, would finally fulfill their promise.

Alas, it didn't happen. For despite opening with a thrilling (for those who stayed up late to watch) come-from-behind victory over Washington in prime time and finishing with a 12-4 regular-season record, Dallas was done in by the NFC wild-card Los Angeles Rams in round one of last year's playoff sweepstakes. The Jets never even got off the ground, finishing 7-9 before announcing that they were (a) leaving town—for the New Jersey Meadowlands in 1984—and (b) trading Todd to New Orleans for a No. 1 draft choice.

As for the coming season, Dallas and New York are just two of several teams with unresolved quarterbacking. The Cowboys plan to give Gary Hogeboom a shot at the starting job held by Danny White. The Jets will feature either their top '83 draftee, Ken O'Brien, who didn't play a down last year, or longtime backup Pat Ryan, who has never started an NFL game. Richard Todd joins Ken Stabler and Dave Wilson in a battle for

the Saints' job. Terry Bradshaw, if he's healthy, or David Woodley, acquired from Miami, will direct the Steelers. The Giants will go with Phil Simms over Jeff Rutledge, provided Simms can avoid the injuries that have beset him in the past. And the victorious Raiders, who have a wealth of riches at virtually every position, must decide between Super hero Jim Plunkett and Marc Wilson. There are no quarterback dilemmas in San Francisco, where Joe Montana has emerged as the game's top-rated passer after five seasons, or in Miami, where rookie Dan Marino graded out as the AFC's best in 1983.

The spotlight will also be on the runners in 1984. Franco Harris of Pittsburgh needs 363 yards to break Jim Brown's all-time rushing record. Walter Payton of the Chicago Bears is just 325 yards behind Harris. John Riggins, who set an NFL mark by running for 24 touchdowns for Washington, is 564 yards from becoming only the fifth player in league history to gain 10,000 yards on the ground. Second-year men Curt Warner of the Seattle Seahawks and Eric Dickerson of the Rams will try to duplicate their extraordinary performances of 1983, when they led their conferences in rushing.

Charlie Joiner of the Chargers could rewrite a chapter of the record book this fall. He needs 54 catches to pass Charley Taylor as pro football's leading receiver. With 65 receptions a year ago, and with the prolific passer Dan Fouts back in action in San Diego, Joiner should accomplish his goal.

After all the individual feats are catalogued, which team will meet the Raiders in Super Bowl XIX? Washington is seeking a record-tying third straight appearance in the grand finale. But Dallas, as usual, will be heard from. As will the St. Louis Cardinals, who lost just twice in their last ten games and are the last team to have beaten the Raiders. The Saints lost a wild-card berth by the margin of three points, and the Detroit Lions came within a missed field goal in the playoffs of beating the 49ers, who were denied a trip to Tampa by two interference calls in the NFC title game.

Someday, perhaps, the Super Bowl will be the penultimate step in determining the pro football champions. Donald Trump, the owner of the New Jersey Generals, has called for a "Galaxy Bowl," wherein the NFL and United States Football League winners will meet for pigskin bragging rights. First, though, the USFL will have to survive year three of its short history.

Winning Points

Ed Bomze

The "Score"

Bob Dunbar

The Gold Sheet

Mort Olshan

Sporting Times

Steve Turner

Sports Reporter

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Ed Horowitz

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From 1975-1977 Danny's top College & Pro picks on his "late telephone service" **shocked** the Football World by averaging 68% versus the spread over this 3 year period (1975-74%; 1976-69%; & 1977-61%). For the past 6 Football Seasons (1978-83), Danny's football picks beat the Vegas Spread 67 weekends, lost 20, & tied 16, which is a 77% weekend winning average versus the spread (not counting ties).

During the 1983 Football Season Danny had **only ONE** losing weekend versus the spread the last 4 months of the College & Pro Season (September 24, 1983-January 24, 1984). Also last year marked the **third straight** Football Season that Danny has **swept** the very important **January 1st Major 5 College Bowl games**. Danny's 3 year (1981-82-83) College Bowl record including all Bowl picks on January 1-2 is a **sizzling** 13-1-1 versus the spread, which has helped make the **New Year** a **very prosperous** one for our Clients! Finally while all the so called experts were picking Washington & "over" in the Super Bowl (Jan. 22, 1984), Danny's Clients were being treated to **another** one of his winning Super Bowl **upset** picks: the **LA RAIDERS & "UNDER 48"** (final score was 38-9).

Danny's first appearance on National TV was on **NBC's TOMORROW SHOW** (10/14/75) hosted by Tom Snyder, where he correctly picked **6 of 7** of his top College & Pro picks (86% vs spread) plus **17 of 19** vs spread that same weekend. He was again asked to appear on the **NBC TOMORROW SHOW** on October 19, 1978, and correctly



picked **4 of 5** (80% vs spread) for the National audience. Danny was also on **NBC'S TOMORROW SHOW** Jan. 22, 1981 & March 25, 1981. Danny's 1983 Super Bowl upset pick of Washington & "over 38" was made on **CBS-TV** (Jan. 27, 1983) and **ABC Radio** (Jan. 28, 1983). Danny's 1984 Super Bowl upset pick of the **LA RAIDERS & "UNDER 48"** was made **live** from the Super Bowl Site on **NBC's TODAY SHOW** (Jan. 20, 1984).

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Space does not permit the listing of every National TV & Radio Show or every major Newspaper & Magazine article that featured **Danny's accuracy** from 1975-1984, but if you would like them please call or write our office. Besides **ABC**, **NBC**, & **ESPN-TV**, some are: **Los Angeles Times**, **New York Times**, **Esquire Magazine**, **Football News**, **Sports Illustrated**, **Pro Football Weekly**, **Penthouse**, **Playboy**, etc.

Every Friday during the **1984 Football Season**, Danny will release his favorite **4-7 College & Pro picks** versus the Vegas Spread for the weekend. As always **ALL** of Danny's Clients will receive the **same** 4-7 weekly picks each Friday, as Danny is the **only one** who is **accurate & honest** enough to release only one set of selections to **all** of his Clients.

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RESURGENCE OF THE RUNNING BACK

by DON PIERSON

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The running back has returned to pro football. For a while, in the coaches' rush to devise newfangled offenses, it looked as though he were going the way of the cornerback, just another prop on a stage designed primarily for passers and catchers. First, the position lost the distinction between half-back and fullback. Then it seemed that the running back's ability to catch the ball was at least as important as his ability to carry it. When coaches started going to one back instead of two, it appeared that the almighty passing game finally was passing up the alternate route. But in 1983, runners stood up, lowered their shoulders, and delivered a message: it's tough to win if you don't run. It was not an entirely new development; just a reminder of where the foot came from in football. Quarterbacks make the difference if running backs make the yardage. Teams don't win without good quarterbacks; they don't get close without good running backs.

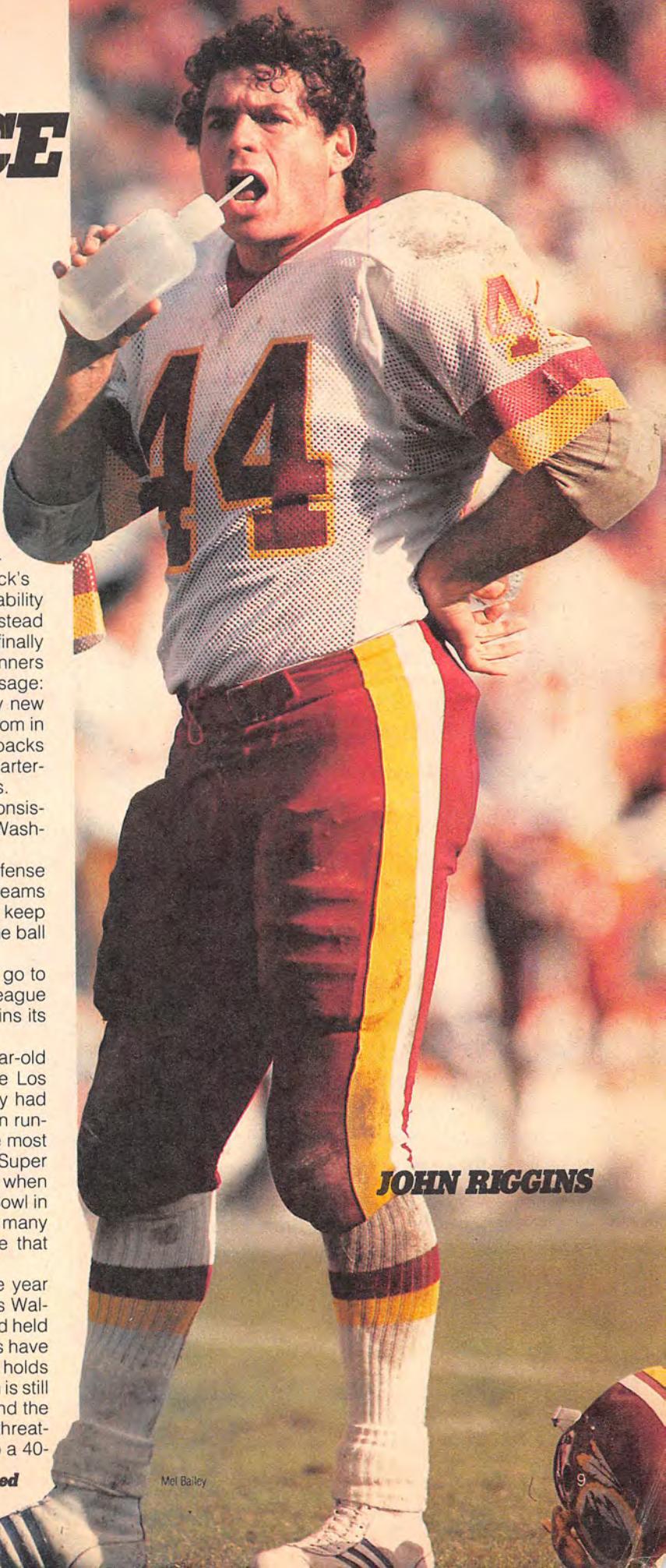
"If you look at the good teams, the things that are consistent are their running game and their defense," said Washington Redskins' quarterback Joe Theismann.

And every coach knows it is difficult to play good defense without a good running game. The best way to keep teams from passing their way into the end zone so often is to keep the ball away from them. And the best way to control the ball still is on the ground.

Owners pay millions to get running backs. Lawyers go to court to keep them. Fans pay homage to them. A new league puts its hopes for success on them. The old league pins its legends on them.

The Redskins built a near-dynasty around a 34-year-old dinosaur of a running back, John Riggins. When the Los Angeles Raiders plotted to win Super Bowl XVIII, they had two things in mind: stop Riggins and unleash their own runner, Marcus Allen. The strategy worked. Allen was the most valuable player in a spectacular Raider victory. He set Super Bowl records for most yardage and longest run. Yet when seven Raider teammates left the next day for the Pro Bowl in Hawaii, Allen was left behind. It seems there are so many good running backs in the National Football League that Allen was overlooked by his colleagues in the voting.

Runners won't be overlooked in 1984. It will be the year two runners, Pittsburgh's Franco Harris and Chicago's Walter Payton, should break the all-time NFL rushing record held by Cleveland's Jim Brown. For nearly 20 years, runners have chased Brown's remarkable numbers. If recent form holds true, this is the year they will catch him, although Brown is still around to point out the asterisks of a longer season and the longer careers of both Harris and Payton. He even threatened a comeback at age 48 and challenged Harris to a 40-



JOHN RIGGINS



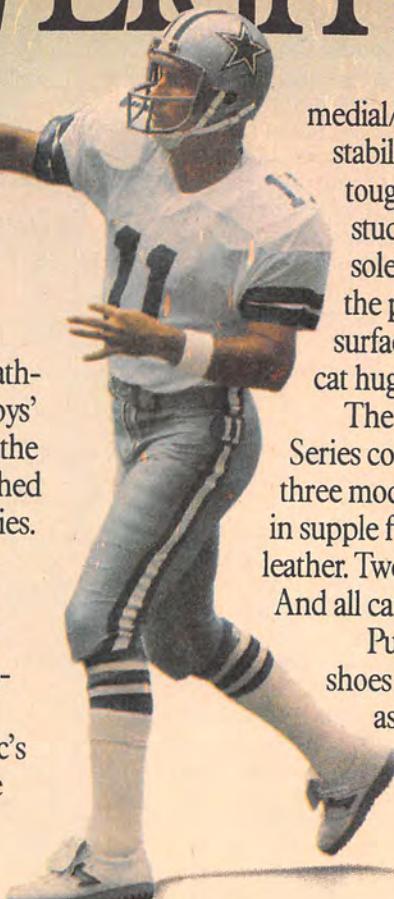
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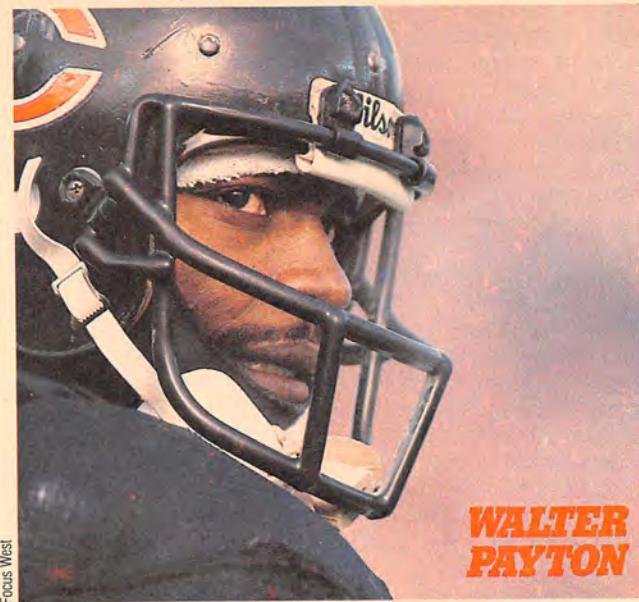
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Focus West

WALTER PAYTON

yard dash. "Jim Brown will always be the greatest," said Payton.

The United States Football League is relying on running backs to carry its banner as well as the ball. The new league signed Heisman Trophy winners Herschel Walker and Mike Rozier in its first two seasons, then added underclassman Marcus Dupree. They went after Joe Cribbs and Billy Sims and Payton before shelling out millions for a quarterback, Steve Young.

In the NFL, after a year interrupted by a strike, Baltimore, New England, and New Orleans gained respect in the standings by gaining ground. The New York Jets slipped and fell at about the same time that 1982 leading rusher Freeman McNeil was injured. The Kansas City Chiefs were devastated by the tragic drowning of Joe Delaney. They simply couldn't replace him. Rookie running backs Eric Dickerson and Curt Warner magically transformed losing teams into playoff teams in 1983. Who will turn the corner in 1984?

There was an average of 259.5 yards rushing per game in 1983, an increase of more than ten percent over 1982. It wasn't a matter of two or three teams inflating the numbers, either. There were 18 clubs that gained more yardage per game rushing than they averaged in 1982. Of those 18, nine had better winning percentages than they had during the strike-shortened 1982 season. Two which didn't improve their winning percentage, the Raiders and Redskins, did well enough to get to the Super Bowl.

Teams ran more efficiently in 1983. Rushing plays gained an average of 4.09 yards, the highest average per rush in 22 years. When backs weren't running far, they were running often, which can be just as effective in controlling the ball. There were 13 teams that ran more times last year than they did in 1981, the last 16-game season. But five additional teams became more efficient by gaining more yards with fewer carries than they managed in 1981.

The Redskins led the way in rushes, with 629. Only the Rams' Eric Dickerson carried more times than Washington's Riggins, who set an all-time record for rushing touchdowns, with 24, 21 of them from three yards or less. "We ran out of bounds a lot near the goal line," explained Riggins.

Riggins played in the Redskins' single-back attack. But the term is misleading. The Redskins were very much a two-back offense; they just used one at a time. Joe Washington led National Conference rushers with an average gain of 5.3

yards, yet in this age of specialization, he did not score a single rushing touchdown. The Raiders were every bit as concerned about stopping Joe Washington as they were about stopping Riggins in the Super Bowl. It was Washington who had beaten them in the final quarter of their regular-season encounter.

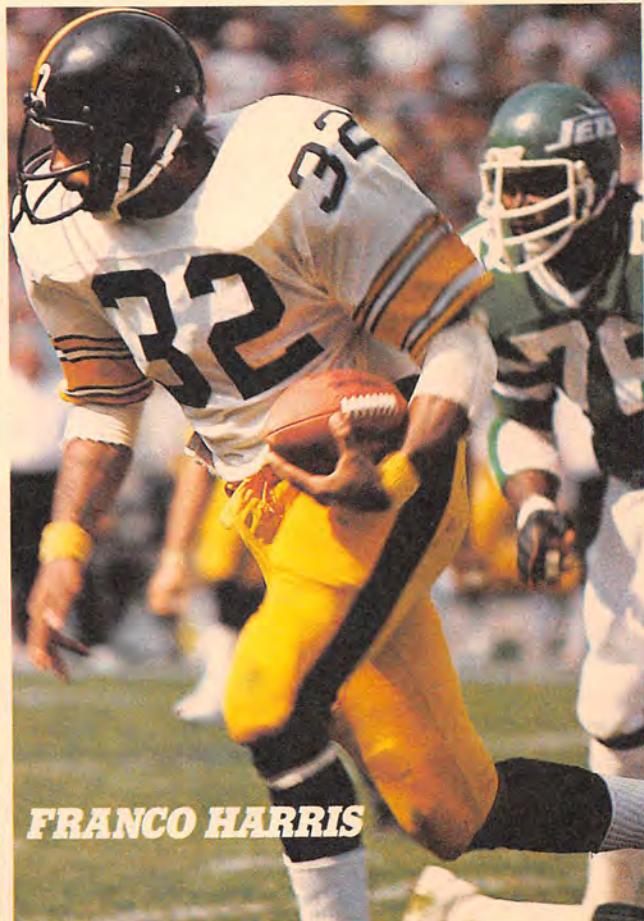
The Raiders' Allen, a fabulous freshman in 1982, failed to finish among the top ten rushers in 1983. Yet he demonstrated in the Super Bowl that he is largely responsible for the resurgence of the Silver and Black. The year before Allen arrived, the Raiders were 7-9. They were 8-1 when he was rookie of the year. They are world champions now.

What is a running back worth? More than money. The USFL treats him like life and death. The New Jersey Generals renewed their contract with Herschel Walker at a price they claim is higher than the eye-popping deal the Los Angeles Express gave Brigham Young University quarterback Steve Young. It wasn't advertised in terms of deferred investments, but the present value was said to be as great or greater.

In the NFL, Detroit's Billy Sims and his agent, Jerry Argovitz, decided running backs were worth more than any contract they could sign. So Sims signed with Argovitz's new Houston Gamblers without telling anyone else, played the 1983 season for the Lions, then signed with the Lions in spite of the USFL deal. Sims figured he had nothing to lose. He let the courts decide where he should play football. He knew two things: he would be wanted somewhere and he was rich. The judge decided Argovitz had a conflict of interest because he represented Sims while he owned the Gamblers, so Sims will play in Detroit.

The courts had to decide whether Joe Cribbs would play in Buffalo of the NFL or Birmingham of the USFL. Bills' coach Kay Stephenson swore on the stand that Cribbs's value to his

continued



FRANCO HARRIS

Mitchell B. Rabel

team was incalculable. Meanwhile, statistics showed that Cribbs was involved in 42 percent of Buffalo's offensive plays. He was responsible for 32 percent of the team's total yardage, 65 percent of the rushing yardage, and 33 percent of the touchdowns. Hence the term "franchise player." The judge sent Cribbs to Birmingham. Buffalo went back to the drawing board.

Sims had a similar statistical impact on the Lions. Early in the season he missed nearly three games with a broken hand. The Lions got off to a 3-5 start. In the final half of the season, Sims gained 850 of his 1,040 yards rushing, including four 100-yard games in a row, and the team finished with a 6-2 record and its first division title since 1957.

The Los Angeles Rams and the Seattle Seahawks reached the playoffs in 1983 after posting losing records in 1982. Both had new coaches, John Robinson in L.A. and Chuck Knox in Seattle, who deserved credit for the turnaround. But much of their work was done months before the season, when both decided they needed running backs. So they started wheeling and dealing draft choices to land the two best backs on the board.

The Rams had the third pick in the entire draft and decided it wasn't high enough. They packaged it with fourth-round picks for the next two years and sent it to Houston for the Oiler's first choice, the second spot in the entire draft. The Rams then took Dickerson and molded their entire offense around him. All he did was record the most carries in the league, 390, plus the longest run of the year, 85 yards, demonstrating the durability and explosiveness that forecast a record-setting future.

The Seahawks finally atoned for their 1977 trade with Dallas that cost them Tony Dorsett. They sent their first-, second-, and third-round draft picks to Houston for the third pick in the draft, the one that had originally belonged to the Rams. Then they took Warner. All he did was become the first rookie since Earl Campbell to lead the American Conference in rushing. Some teams had rated Warner ahead of Dickerson because of his ability to catch the ball. The Chicago Bears, for instance, were picking sixth and thought Warner could be their new Walter Payton.

Dickerson and Warner were not the only new runners to burst upon the scene. Roger Craig helped turn around the

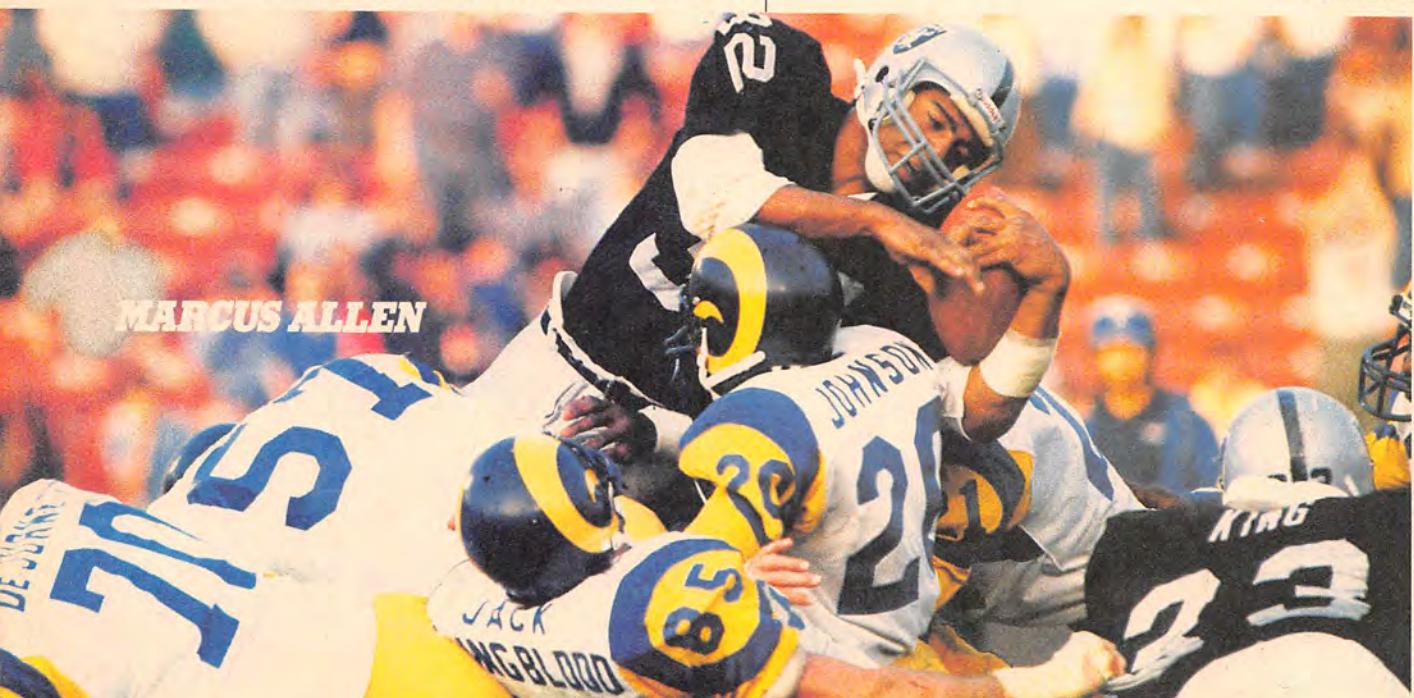
San Francisco 49ers in similar fashion. Coach Bill Walsh's team, stereotyped as strictly pass-happy, made running backs a priority after a disappointing plunge from Super Bowl champions to a 3-6 record in '82. When the Rams unloaded Wendell Tyler to make room for Dickerson, the 49ers were only too happy to take him. The tandem of Tyler and Craig improved the 49ers from the 28th-ranked rushing team in 1982 to eighth in '83. A playoff spot was the result.

Billy Sims was nicely complemented by huge rookie fullback James Jones, who improved as the season progressed. He showed he could catch and run and finished behind Dickerson and Craig in rookie rushing in the NFC. Jones was a first-round draft choice expected to accomplish such things, while Cleveland's Boyce Green was an eleventh-round draft choice from Carson-Newman college who turned into a pleasant surprise. When Mike Pruitt was injured, Green stepped in and gained 137 yards in his first start. He finished the season with 497 and a promise from coach Sam Rutigliano: "Mike Pruitt's 39 percent of the offense is going to be shared."

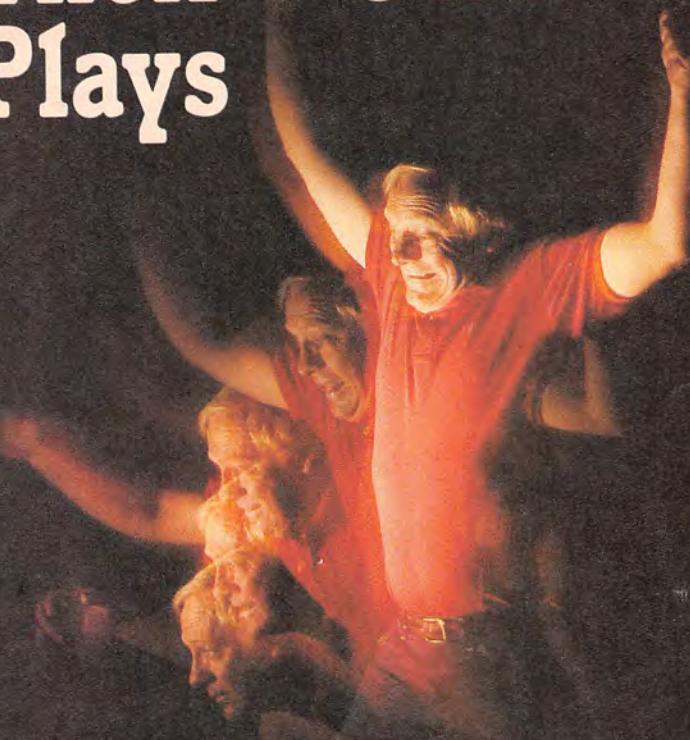
The prominence of running backs even brought the incomparable Jim Brown back to offer some perspective. Brown argued that the 16-game schedule cheapened the accomplishment of gaining 1,000 yards. "Gaining 1,000 yards isn't even worth talking about anymore," he said. When Brown did it in the 12-game season of 1958, he was only the eighth running back in 27 years to gain 1,000. Over 12 games a runner had to average 83.3 yards a game. That would project to 1,333 yards over today's 16-game schedule. Five men surpassed that last season—Dickerson, Atlanta's William Andrews, Warner, Payton, and Riggins. There were 16 men who made 1,000 yards, eight in each conference. It was the highest number ever.

Who are the best runners, then? Pro Bowl ballots cast by players leave room for only four running backs per conference. Dickerson, Payton, Andrews, and Dorsett were honored in the NFC. Warner, Campbell, New England's Tony Collins, and Cribbs got the nod in the AFC. Payton, starting his tenth season, is the old man of that group. Dorsett is next,

continued



Our Armchair Quarterbacks Call Their Own Plays

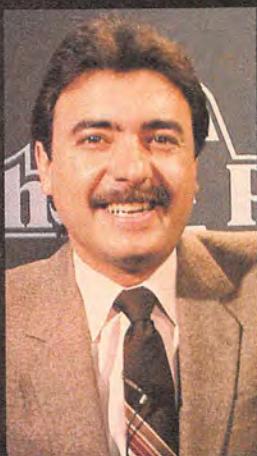


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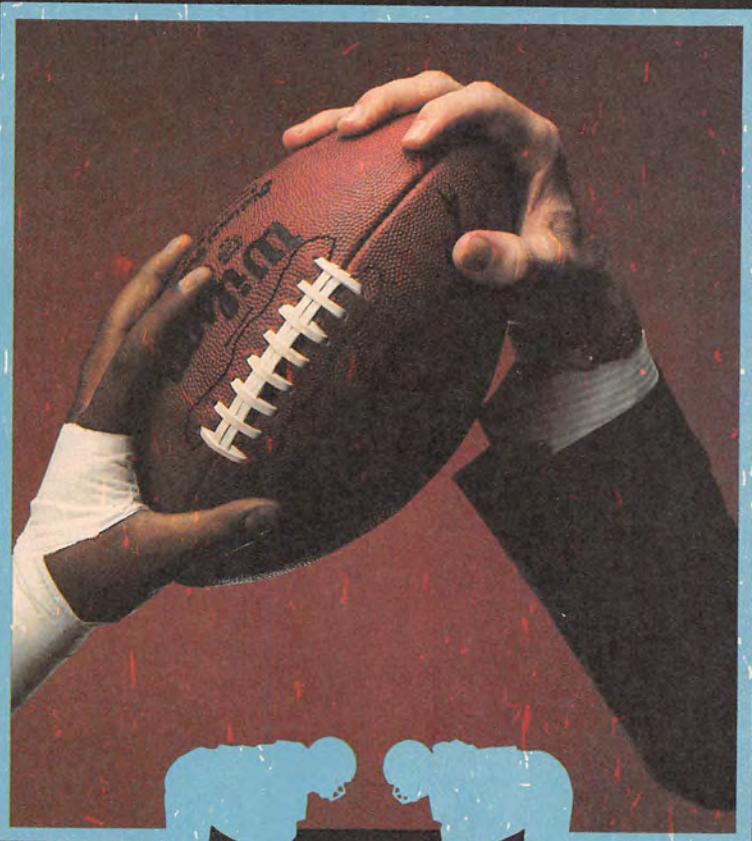
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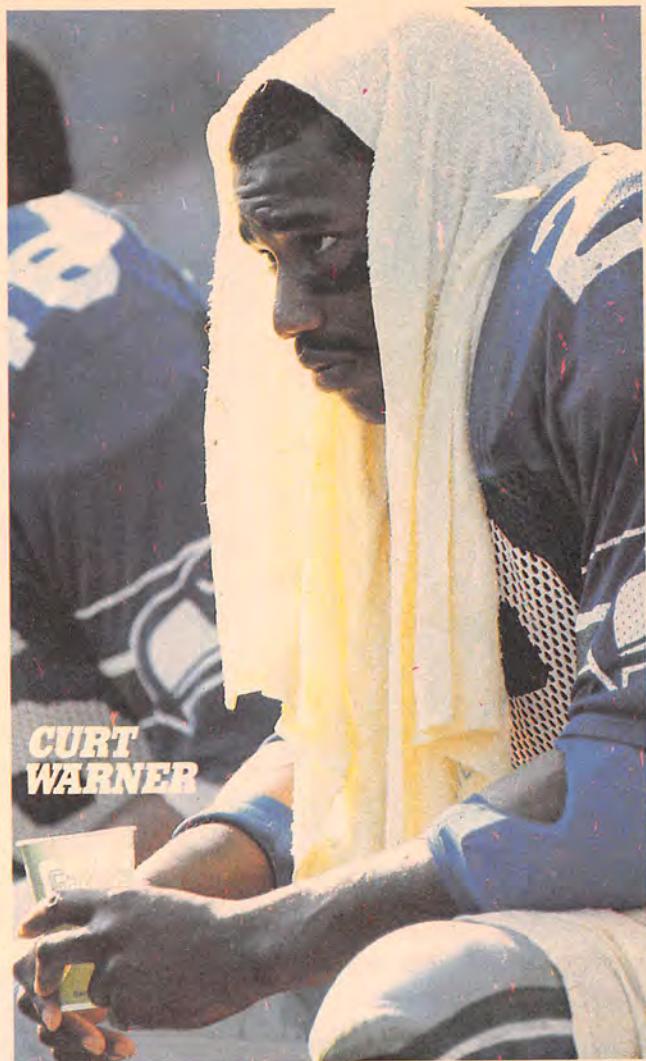
starting his eighth. But all eight of them have plenty of mileage left. All earn accolades. One, Andrews, generates special mention from peers because he tends to get lost in the publicity crowd. "I think Andrews is the best running back in the league today," says San Francisco linebacker Jack Reynolds, who makes a habit of studying such things. "Nobody hits the hole like he does. He's the one player who gives the tackler more punishment than the runner gets."

Marcus Allen and John Riggins were not the only superstars left off the Pro Bowl roster. St. Louis's Ottis Anderson quietly sneaked onto the list of top 20 all-time rushers in only his fifth season. He became the youngest member of the elite. When the Cardinals were getting off to a 1-5 start, Anderson was averaging 66 yards a game. When they finished 7-2-1, Anderson was averaging 88 yards per. George Rogers is at the center of Bum Phillips's plans to put the New Orleans Saints into the playoffs for the first time, and Wayne Wilson proved better than a stand-in for Rogers. In Baltimore, Curtis Dickey and Randy McMillan became the most effective tandem in the AFC.

The real correlation between running backs and success was demonstrated by teams that didn't have them. Joe Delaney's death two weeks before the start of training camp sent the Chiefs into shock in more ways than one. They obtained Jewerl Thomas from the Rams, but never recovered from the absence of Delaney, who had finished third in rushing in the AFC in 1981. Without him, the Chiefs plummeted to last in the league.

The Jets were headed toward the Super Bowl on the exploits of Freeman McNeil in 1982. He led the league in rushing and provided the Jets with their best running threat since they had Riggins. With many experts predicting the Super Bowl for the 1983 Jets, McNeil started the season gaining 120, then 140 yards. Then he missed seven games with a shoulder separation and the team lost four of them. The Jets dropped from fourth to seventeenth in rushing and from 6-3 to 7-9 in the standings.

In Tampa Bay, the Buccaneers lamented the loss of quarterback Doug Williams. When they lost running back James Wilder for the final six games, they lost all hope for respectability. Moved from fullback to tailback in the eighth week,



RUNNING BACKS

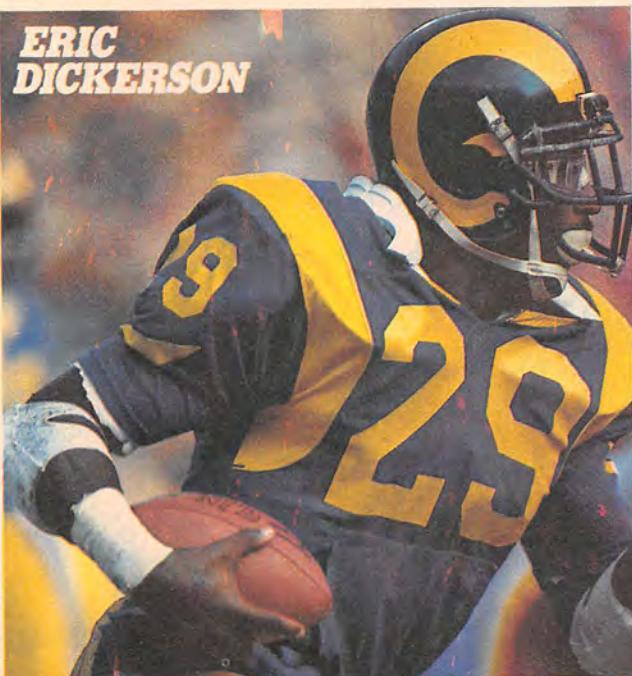
Ron Watt

Wilder set a league record with 42 carries in his second start at the position. The following week Wilder gained 219 yards in the team's first victory—against Minnesota. Then he broke a rib. Three weeks after Wilder set his rushing record, Butch Woolfolk of the Giants broke it with 43 carries.

Cincinnati started its season without fullback Pete Johnson, who was suspended for four games for drug purchases. The Bengals started out 1-3. When Johnson returned, they improved, finishing 6-6. Philadelphia's demise can be traced to the absence of Wilbert Montgomery. With him hurting, the Eagles were 26th in the league in rushing.

Defensive coaches have a special place in their clipboards for bosses who like to run. Teams that run well, or at least run often, take pressure off their own defenses by applying pressure to others. The more they control the football, the less their defenses have to play. The better they run, the better the field position and the easier it is to play defense. Ironically, the run is more popular these days because defenses have encouraged it. By playing more little defensive backs and linebackers to stop the onslaught of passing, defensive coaches have invited offensive coaches to run at them. "There are so many fine running backs and so many pass-oriented defenses that they allow people to do more trapping and running," said San Francisco's Bill Walsh.

If increased running remains a trend in 1984, it is a perfect example of how such things go in cycles. When defensive coaches decide it's time to stop the run, they will rediscover four and five-man fronts. Then some bright young thinker will suggest, "Let's pass the ball."



Mitchell B. Reiter

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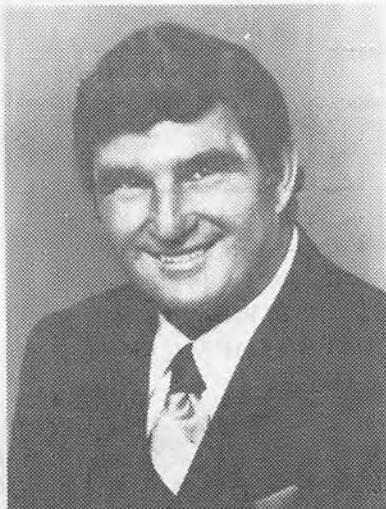
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NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

| SCHEDULE | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sunday, September 2 | Atlanta at New Orleans Cincinnati at Denver Cleveland at Seattle Kansas City at Pittsburgh Los Angeles Raiders at Houston Miami at Washington New England at Buffalo New York Jets at Colts Philadelphia at New York Giants St. Louis at Green Bay San Diego at Minnesota San Francisco at Detroit Tampa Bay at Chicago |
| Monday, September 3 | Dallas at Los Angeles Rams(N) |
| Thursday, September 6 | Pittsburgh at New York Jets(N) |
| Sunday, September 9 | Buffalo at St. Louis Cleveland at Los Angeles Rams Colts at Houston Dallas at New York Giants Denver at Chicago Detroit at Atlanta Green Bay at Atlanta Kansas City at Denver Los Angeles Rams at Cincinnati Minnesota at Detroit New York Jets at Buffalo Pittsburgh at Cleveland St. Louis at New Orleans San Francisco at Philadelphia Tampa Bay at New York Giants |
| Monday, September 10 | Washington at San Francisco(N) |
| Sunday, September 16 | Atlanta at Minnesota Chicago at Green Bay Cincinnati at New York Jets Denver at Cleveland(N) Detroit at Tampa Bay Houston at San Diego L.A. Raiders at Kansas City Los Angeles Rams at Pittsburgh New Orleans at San Francisco New York Giants at Washington Philadelphia at Dallas St. Louis at Colts Seattle at New England Miami at Buffalo(N) |
| Sunday, September 23 | Chicago at Seattle Colts at St. Louis Cincinnati at New England Dallas at Washington Houston at Miami Los Angeles Rams at New Orleans Minnesota at Los Angeles Raiders New York Jets at Cleveland Pittsburgh at San Francisco San Diego at Kansas City Tampa Bay at Detroit |
| Monday, October 15 | Green Bay at Denver(N) Chicago at Tampa Bay Cleveland at Cincinnati Denver at Buffalo Detroit at Minnesota Kansas City at New York Jets Los Angeles Raiders at San Diego Miami at New England New Orleans at Dallas(N) New York Giants at Philadelphia Pittsburgh at Colts Seattle vs. Green Bay (Milw.) Washington at St. Louis |
| Sunday, October 21 | Green Bay at Denver(N) Chicago at Tampa Bay Cleveland at Cincinnati Denver at Buffalo Detroit at Minnesota Kansas City at New York Jets Los Angeles Raiders at San Diego Miami at New England New Orleans at Dallas(N) New York Giants at Philadelphia Pittsburgh at Cincinnati San Francisco at Cleveland Tampa Bay at Atlanta |
| Monday, October 22 | Los Angeles Rams at Atlanta(N) Atlanta at Pittsburgh Buffalo at Miami Cincinnati at Houston Colts at Dallas Denver at Los Angeles Raiders Detroit at Green Bay Minnesota at Chicago New Orleans at Cleveland St. Louis at New England San Francisco at Philadelphia Tampa Bay at L.A. Rams Washington at New York Giants |
| Sunday, October 28 | Atlanta at Pittsburgh Buffalo at Miami Cincinnati at Houston Colts at Dallas Denver at Los Angeles Raiders Detroit at Green Bay Minnesota at Chicago New Orleans at Cleveland St. Louis at New England San Francisco at Philadelphia Tampa Bay at L.A. Rams Washington at New York Giants |
| Monday, October 29 | Seattle at San Diego(N) Cincinnati at San Francisco Cleveland at Buffalo Green Bay at New Orleans Houston at Pittsburgh Kansas City at Seattle Los Angeles Raiders at Chicago Miami at New York Jets New England at Denver New York Giants at Dallas Philadelphia at Detroit San Diego at Colts Tampa Bay at Minnesota |
| Sunday, November 4 | Atlanta at Cincinnati Chicago at Washington Colts at Los Angeles Raiders Houston at Cleveland Kansas City at New York Giants Los Angeles Rams at Tampa Bay Philadelphia at St. Louis San Diego at Pittsburgh San Francisco at New Orleans Seattle at Denver |
| Monday, November 5 | Atlanta at Washington(N) |
| Monday, October 8 | San Francisco at New York Giants(N) |
| Sunday, October 14 | Buffalo at Seattle Chicago at St. Louis Cincinnati at New England Colts at Philadelphia Dallas at Washington Houston at Miami Los Angeles Rams |
| Sunday, November 11 | Buffalo at New England Chicago at Los Angeles Rams Colts at New York Jets Denver at San Diego Houston at Washington Minnesota vs. Green Bay (Milw.) New York Giants at Atlanta Philadelphia at Miami Pittsburgh at Cincinnati San Francisco at Cleveland Tampa Bay at Green Bay |
| Monday, November 12 | Los Angeles Raiders at Seattle(N) |
| Sunday, November 18 | Cleveland at Atlanta Dallas at Buffalo Detroit at Chicago Kansas City at L.A. Raiders L.A. Rams vs. Green Bay (Milw.) Miami at San Diego Minnesota at Denver New England at Colts St. Louis at New York Giants Seattle at Cincinnati Tampa Bay at San Francisco Washington at Philadelphia Pittsburgh at New Orleans(N) |
| Monday, November 19 | Pittsburgh at New Orleans(N) |
| Thursday, November 22 | Green Bay at Detroit New England at Dallas Atlanta at Cincinnati Buffalo at Washington Chicago at Minnesota Colts at Los Angeles Raiders Houston at Cleveland Kansas City at New York Giants Los Angeles Rams at Tampa Bay Philadelphia at St. Louis San Diego at Pittsburgh Seattle at Kansas City Washington at Dallas |
| Sunday, November 25 | Los Angeles Raiders at Detroit(N) L.A. Rams at San Francisco(N) |
| Monday, November 26 | New York Jets at Miami(N) |
| Thursday, November 29 | Washington at Minnesota(N) |
| Sunday, December 2 | Cincinnati at Cleveland Colts at Buffalo Dallas at Philadelphia Denver at Kansas City Detroit at Seattle Los Angeles Raiders at Miami New Orleans at Los Angeles Rams Pittsburgh at Houston St. Louis at New England Tampa Bay at Atlanta |
| Monday, December 3 | Chicago at San Diego(N) |
| Saturday, December 8 | Buffalo at New York Jets Minnesota at San Francisco |
| Sunday, December 9 | Atlanta at Tampa Bay Cincinnati at New Orleans Cleveland at Pittsburgh Green Bay at Chicago Houston at Los Angeles Rams Miami at Colts New England at Philadelphia New York Giants at St. Louis San Diego at Denver Seattle at Kansas City Washington at Dallas |
| Monday, December 10 | Los Angeles Raiders at Detroit(N) |
| Friday, December 14 | L.A. Rams at San Francisco(N) |
| Saturday, December 15 | Denver at Seattle New Orleans at New York Giants |
| Sunday, December 16 | Buffalo at Cincinnati Chicago at Detroit Cleveland at Houston Colts at New England Green Bay at Minnesota Kansas City at San Diego New York Jets at Tampa Bay Philadelphia at Atlanta Pittsburgh at Los Angeles Raiders St. Louis at Washington |
| Monday, December 17 | Dallas at Miami(N) |

THE RAIDERS' WINNING STYLE

by JOHN BLANCHETTE

SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

H

ere's the feature assignment: the Los Angeles Raiders, pro football's dynasty. Yeah. The Carringtons of the National Football League. Blake Rozelle and Alexis Davis. Costarring Lyle Alzado as Adam, Howie Long as Dex Dexter, and Matt Millen as Rashid. La Mirage at El Segundo.

What do you mean, "Not that Dynasty?" Oh, you mean dynasty as in the Green Bay Packers and Pittsburgh Steelers... as in Les Canadiens and the Boston Auerbachs and those Damn Yankees. No? You mean even better than that? It's hard to accept, yeah, but it's there, on page 3 of the Raiders' 1983 media guide, the section labeled "The Organization." There's a little chart that shows the Raiders—the Los Angeles-nee-Oakland Raiders—as the winningest team in professional sports over the past 20 years. And this before the Silver and Black butted the Washington Redskins into the ropes in Super Bowl XVIII and hammered their heads against the turnbuckle.

O.K., the record proves it. So how come looking at the pirate with the eye patch reminds us more of pro wrestling than pro football? Lyle Alzado bears an uncanny spiritual resemblance to Black Jack Lanza, and there's so much Lou Albano in Al Davis. Why do we keep waiting for the Raiders to pull foreign objects out of their trunks?

Would you believe marketing? Sometimes there is a subtle distinction, separating style from substance. The Raiders perfected Hoya Paranoia long before John Thompson ever smuggled his basketball team into a secluded hotel. No out-of-towners allowed at the Raiders' El Segundo hideaway. No interviews with the owner. No formal announcements of roster changes. But look up "good copy" in a dictionary and the Raiders will probably be an alternate definition. And look up the standings for the AFC West and nine out of 14 years you'll find the Raiders on top.

Maybe a better indication of how suc-



cessful the Raiders are came when coach Tom Flores encountered Denver's Dan Reeves at a meeting in Seattle last spring. "You got a birthday coming up?" Flores wondered. "No," Reeves said. "You always miss my birthday. It's in January. You're always playing in January."

And always having one hell of a good time, it seems.

"I have it on good authority that Mr. Kimball Adams has very unsavory friends." "Of course, Cyrus. He plays professional football."

Pete Gent, *The Franchise*

Let's get some things straight. Not every member of Team Raider majored in waste management—i.e., learning how to waste people. Not all of them have pet tarantulas. Not all of them spread butter with a switchblade. Still, the Raiders have a history of being slightly, as tight end Todd Christensen puts it, "left of normal." Check out the alumni mailing list. Kenny Stabler, Ben Davidson, Warren Wells, Dave Casper, Tom Keating, Phil Villapiano, George Atkinson, The Tooz, Otis Sistrunk, from the University of Mars. "Interesting people," John Madden, the coach who would rather take the train, used to call them. And violent, too. Fred the Hammer. They Call Me Assassin. Kill, Bubba, Kill.

The current roster is no less loaded with offbeats in cleats. Ted Hendricks and his hats. Alzado and his... what? Christensen and his *Bartlett's Quotations*.

Lester Hayes estimates he's seen each of the *Star Wars* sagas 70

times. He started calling Millen "Jabba the Hutt" because the linebacker went two weeks in training camp without taking a shower. With which team did Jim Brown want to make his comeback? The Raiders, natch.

So how does Flores coach an unruly mob like this?

"Well, when we have a general meeting, the first thing I do is open the door and throw in some raw meat and close the door real quick," he said deadpan. "And then when the noise subsides, I'll

Jim Plunkett

Marcus Allen

come in. By that time, they're docile and some of them are kind of dozing. Then I'll talk to them. I have a guy in back with a machine gun in case something happens, and I have a guy on the other side with a whip.

"Eventually they'll come around and sit up, get out of their four-point stances and sit in a chair. Sometimes you have to grunt a little bit because some of them don't understand what you're trying to say. Finally you'll say, 'O.K., let's go—on two,' and they'll break. Usually we have to repair the door because they forget to open it."

Heh, heh, heh. Christensen, the all-pro who was rescued from two different teams' scrap heaps, will go along with the raw meat gag. "I was at the front one time," he noted drolly, "but unfortunately I got trichinosis." Christensen is a thoughtful gent who knows the Raiders' renegade reputation isn't wholly correct... but useful all the same.

"A lot of times that particular image that we have may not be accurate," he said, "but one of the reasons we continue to propound that image is that it gives us an extra man on the field. If other people think we're eating raw meat, that we have people who are a little left of normal and failed the Martin Personality Test, then that works to our benefit."

The day after their 38-9 thumping of the Redskins, eight Raiders (Christensen, Hendricks, Long, Hayes, Rod Martin, Vann McElroy, Greg Pruitt, and Henry Lawrence) flew to Honolulu to play in the Pro Bowl. No other NFL team had more participants.

**Don't worry about the horse being blind,
just load the wagon.**

John Madden, pre-game pep talk.

Whether the coach has been Madden, Davis, John Rauch, or now Flores, the Raiders have always had the ability to find dusty jewels in what other teams considered to be just so much broken glass. Their Super Bowl roster listed 17 players who began their careers with other NFL organizations. The litany by now is all too familiar. Alzado, traded for an eighth-round draft pick. Chris Bahr, released by Cincinnati. Christensen, released by the Giants and Cowboys. Hendricks, signed as a free agent. Kenny King, a draft-day trade. Cle Montgomery, released by the Bengals and Browns. Linebackers Rod Martin and Bob Nelson constitute the biggest of Raider ironies. They were released by the Raiders, signed and released by the 49ers, then re-signed by the Raiders.

"Judging talent in the NFL is hardly an exact science," Christensen offered. "The Raiders, too, have made their mistakes. But the organization here is willing to take a chance, where others might say, 'He's not our type of player, he's not going to fit in here.' What the Raiders are concerned about is, 'Can you play?'"

The most celebrated example of that is, of course, quarterback Jim Plunkett.

Traded from New England to the 49ers in 1976 and released two years later, Plunkett led the Raiders to the world championship in 1980, when he was MVP of the Super Bowl. In '83, Plunkett was replaced as the starter after the seventh game by Marc Wilson, who was promptly injured in his third start. Uh, Jim, that's your cue. The Raiders lost just once thereafter. Plunkett, rested and maybe a little wiser, cut down his interceptions (13

continued



Alzado / Hendricks / Long

It has also kept the Raiders happy, to an extent. By no means is this Walton's Mountain, but you don't see this wide receiver or that defensive back chafing under the tight rein of rules imposed by by-the-book management.

"One thing the Raiders have been good on throughout the years is allowing a certain degree of self-expression," Christensen agreed. "Their concern is how you perform between the sidelines and not whether you're helping old ladies across the street or putting up this public facade which is congruent with what everyone else wants to see. In the past, we may have had personalities that were better suited to jails and the like, but, again, these have always been people who have played football, and the record proves it."



Lester Hayes

THE RAIDERS' WINNING STYLE

continued

before the benching, 5 after his return), exploited the short passing game, and got more help from the offensive line. His Super Bowl numbers were only sufficient: 16 for 25, no interceptions, 172 yards, one touchdown.

He has not been intercepted in his two Super Bowls. "All Jim has done for us when he's healthy," Flores nods, "is win."

But not all of the Raiders' successes are other teams' castoffs. Some Raiders never even get a chance to cast on with anyone else. Which brings us to Marcus Allen. He wasn't a Pro Bowl selection last season, which means he still isn't getting the kind of respect he deserves. Obviously the balloting was done long before the playoffs, when Allen had 466 yards in three games, including 191 against the Redskins. The dazzling 74-yard cutback touchdown dash he made in the Super Bowl was a football face job of the highest order. Allen was the Raiders' No. 1 pick in the 1982 draft—but the Raiders didn't draft until the second ten. Despite being a 2,300-yard man in his senior year at USC, it seems Allen was considered a bit suspect.

"We were 7-9 the year before and the only reason we stole Marcus," said Flores, "is that a lot of teams didn't scout him properly. They were concerned with his speed. They said he wasn't fast enough, not a burner like [Tony] Dorsett. They

were concerned with the Heisman Trophy jinx. [Southern Cal] tailbacks have not turned out that well since O.J."

"We felt he was fast enough. We knew he wasn't a 4.4 guy, but he was 4.6, which is fast for a guy 210 pounds. Things that hadn't been tapped were his pass-catching abilities. And we knew he was a good blocker because he spent a lot of time blocking as an underclassman."

The Raiders had gone a spell without a back of Allen's stature. "You don't get that kind of back when you draft 20th, 23rd, 24th. You have to lose a few games and almost your job to get a few guys like that," Flores explained. Reeves, for one,

knew that the teams passing over Allen were making a mistake. "I cried every time somebody passed him up," said the Denver coach, who marveled at Allen's quickness. "The last team I wanted to see get him was the Raiders."

That was Chuck Knox's sentiment when the Raiders engineered three trades during the '83 season with New England. The Raiders got tight end Don Hasselbeck, tackle Shelby Jordan, and, most importantly, all-pro cornerback Mike Haynes from the

Patriots for three draft picks and tight end Derrick Ramsey. "The Raiders have more quality depth than anyone in the NFL," said Knox. "They've got a second offensive line of Jordan, Ed Muransky, Curt Marsh, Don Mosebar, and Steve Sylvester. That's pretty good. They've got Hasselbeck behind Christensen. They've got a starter at corner, Ted Watts, who's a backup now because they have Haynes."

The team should be an extension of the coach's personality.

My team is arrogant and obnoxious.

—Former Marquette basketball coach Al McGuire

The Raiders are arrogant and obnoxious—charmingly so, if that's possible—but Tom Flores isn't. Flores has been given a media persona akin to that of packaged macaroni and cheese. That is to say, bland. Like most media creations, that isn't entirely accurate. Eddie Murphy he's not, but Flores does have a dry sense of humor, he's fairly well-spoken, and insightful. Give writers the choice of five minutes with Flores and five with Knox and you wouldn't be able to see the Raider coach's face for the forest of microphones. Maybe he just seems ultrastraight in contrast to the team he coaches. And maybe, with the assorted personalities on the roster, that's exactly what the Raiders need.

In a profile of Flores done by Alan Greenberg in the *Los Angeles Times*, the former quarterback (he's the only person to have been on the winning side in the Super Bowl as a player, assistant, and head coach) got high marks from his players and aides for game preparation, football knowledge, and handling of personnel. Certainly he understands his players and why the Raiders have been successful in the way they've gone about building the team. Take the recycling of veterans.

"Usually, when you trade for a veteran who's 32 or 33 when his team is going for a younger guy, you don't give up much," Flores said. "In some cases, you end up stealing him and you also end up giving him new life. If you were building a team from scratch, you probably wouldn't want a guy like that unless he was a tremendous leader. We're fortunate that one guy can come in and make just enough of a difference, like an Alzado. You might even have a guy who's not a full-timer. We brought in Cedrick Hardman in '80 and just used him on passing downs. Greg Pruitt, who hadn't returned kicks in a while, we traded for him and told him we wanted him to return kicks, and he said 'fine.' "

Does he have trouble blending in the veteran acquisitions?

"In some cases, it might be easier. They want to prove to the team that let them go that [the team] made a mistake. And they see the way we operate is such a drastic change from what they've been accustomed to that it's refreshing."

Flores also knows that the Raiders, with just one losing season in the past 19, have little choice but to play the waiver wire like a flute. "We kid a lot of times among the coaching staff and think how great it would be to have the first choice in

Al Davis

STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL

the first round of the draft," he laughed. "If we had that, we would be a new staff...because if this team had the first choice, [we'd] be gone."

And Al Davis would be the man bidding them goodbye.

If I got rid of my demons, I'd lose my angels.

—Tennessee Williams

When the Raiders arrived in Tampa for the Super Bowl, they were greeted by more than 100 billboards around town that read "Commitment to Excellence." Al Davis bought them. While orchestrating the shift of his franchise from Oakland to Los Angeles—with coaches and players who continue to commute—and battling Pete Rozelle in the courts, all Al Davis has managed to do is put together a team that's won 23 of 30 starts in two years and the third Super Bowl in the club's history. That's three in eight seasons. The Steelers won four in the space of six, but what have they done lately?

The popular theory, of course, is that Davis doesn't just own the team and act as its general manager (the Raiders have no one with such a title), but calls all the important coaching shots as well. It's a theory that Davis, Flores, Madden, and just about everyone connected with the Raiders denies. Davis has called Flores "one of the greatest coaches of all time." Flores says he solicits Davis's input "because he's a football guy." He doesn't feel he's being second-guessed, and he's not intimidated by a powerful owner with a keen football mind. "I have an ego," Flores told Greenberg, "but I'm not on an ego trip."

More important than Davis's relationship with his coaches may be his relationship with the players. He is considered generous by NFL ownership standards and has been known to upgrade a contract if the player's performance merits it. He makes the locker-room rounds after a win with handshakes and hugs and his signature line, "Just win, baby," which is to Davis what "Go ahead, make my day" is to Clint Eastwood. If the rejects and reclamation projects the Raiders have lived on over the years feel misunderstood elsewhere, who better to console them than Al Davis, the NFL's me-against-the-world owner?

"One of the things he does quite well," said Christensen, "is let the players concentrate on the game."

And a man's foes shall be they of his own household

—Matthew 10:36

It was revealed that on the Thursday before the Super Bowl, Raiders' assistant coach Sam Boghosian encouraged Millen to pick a fight with a teammate in practice for the purpose of firing the team up. "Fights on this team don't tear us apart," insisted Howie Long. "They bring us together."

So is that what makes the Raiders go? Or is it sheer athletic dominance? Is it the ability of a Ray Guy to save a potentially disastrous bad snap in the Super Bowl with a leaping, one-handed grab and still get off the punt? Is it the ability of a Cliff Branch, who even at 35 defies single coverage on pass routes? Is it the firm of Hayes and Haynes playing receivers so close they're looking at their opponents' uniform numbers from the inside? Is it the unsung contribution of a Reggie Kinlaw, who personally made bacon out of Washington's celebrated Hogs? How do you get a team as good as the Raiders—and San Diego coach Don Coryell has called them "likely the best team that's ever been on the field"—out of so many divergent personalities?

"Ted Hendricks and I don't go out drinking, and Lyle doesn't come over to the house a lot for dinner," Christensen admitted. "But that's all right. You get together with these people and have one common thing in mind, and that's to win football games. That creates camaraderie and unity. That's not superficial."

That's it? That's the dynasty formula? Doesn't sound like it'll play on prime time. But, then, the Carringtons probably wouldn't hack it on Sunday afternoons, either.

Tom Flores

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

The key word in the American Football Conference for 1984 is "new." There will be five new quarterbacks in the AFC this season, plus a couple of maybes.

Warren Moon cost Houston millions, so he must play. Frank Kush awarded the Colts' job to Mark Herrmann when the team slithered into Indianapolis. Paul McDonald assumes command in Cleveland from USFL defector Brian Sipe. Joe Walton, the Jets' coach, committed to Ken O'Brien, who hasn't taken a snap in the NFL yet. But even if O'Brien swoons, the quarterback still will be new, Pat Ryan, since Richard Todd was dealt to New Orleans. Chuck Noll dealt with Miami for David Woodley to take over from another USFL defector, Cliff Stoudt. But there could be a new "old" starting quarterback if Terry Bradshaw heals. The maybes are with the Los Angeles Raiders, where Marc Wilson challenges the unpredictable Jim Plunkett, and with the Buffalo Bills, where Matt Kofler takes a run at Joe Ferguson's job.

There will be two new AFC head coaches. Hugh Campbell was hired to bring order out of chaos in Houston. Sam Wyche replaces Forrest Gregg, who took it on the lam out of Cincinnati to become head coach of the Green Bay Packers.

The coming of Campbell is expected to erode all the bitterness which remained after the popular Bum Phillips was canned two years ago. His successor, Ed Biles, left late last season and was replaced by interim coach Chuck Studley. The expectation is that Campbell will operate as successfully as he did in Edmonton, where he dominated the Canadian League, and not as he did with the Los Angeles Express of the USFL, where he was less than successful in his one year in the new league.

Wyche left the University of Indiana after one year as head coach for the opportunity he sought in the pros. Working for Paul Brown is no day at the beach, but Wyche isn't getting into anything unexpected, since he served the Bengals as a quarterback.

Not so noticeable but vitally important are five changes among coordinators, four of them on defense. The most interesting is in Miami, where Bill Arnsparger, possibly the most respected defensive coach in football, left after last season to become head coach at Louisiana State University. When Arnsparger left Don Shula's staff in 1974 to become head coach of the New York Giants, there was an appreciable dip in Miami's defensive play. Arnsparger's successor is Studley, who was the defensive coordinator of San Francisco the year the 49ers won the Super Bowl. In a strange move,

by **LARRY FELSER**
BUFFALO NEWS

PREDICTIONS

WEST

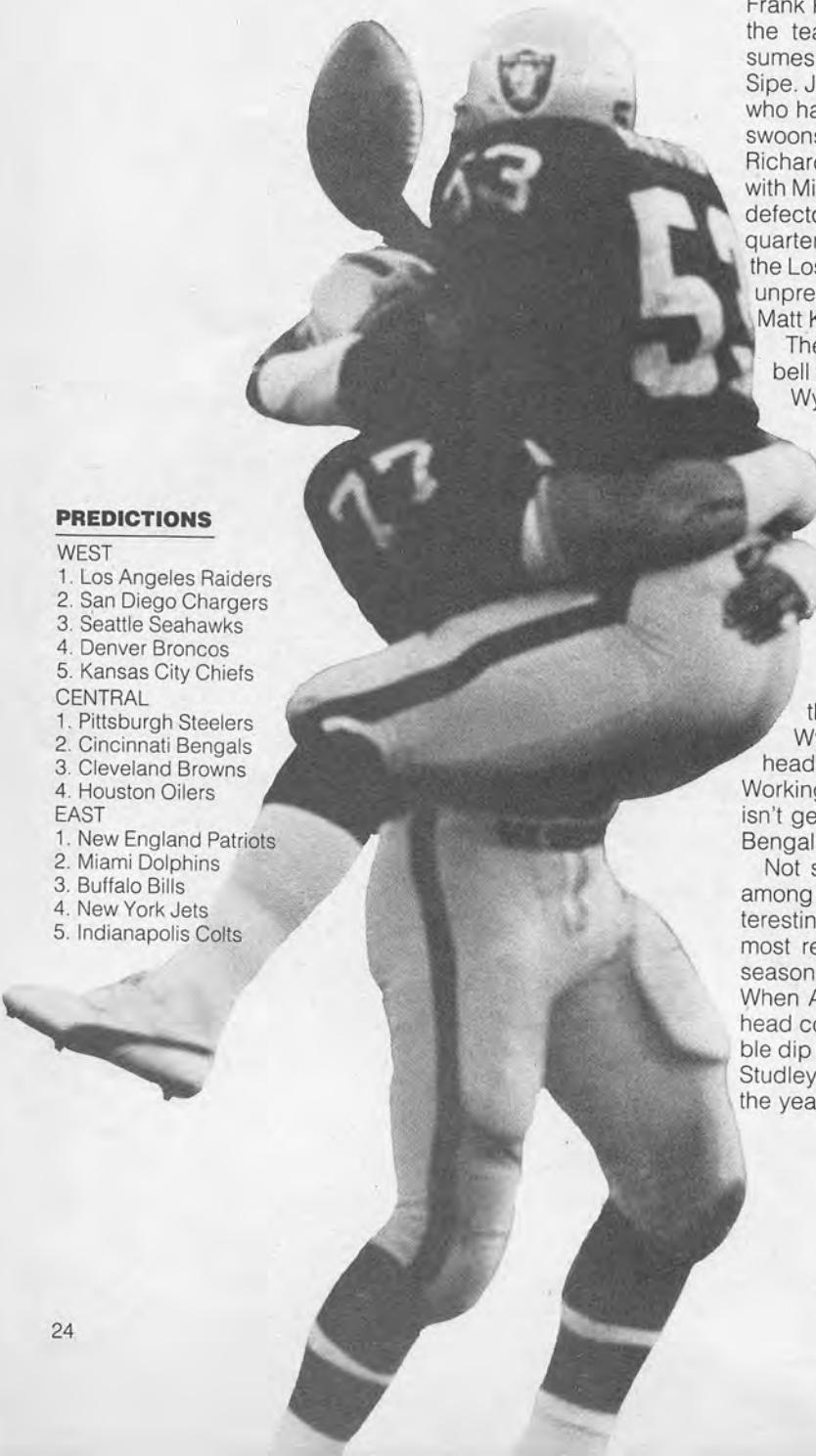
1. Los Angeles Raiders
2. San Diego Chargers
3. Seattle Seahawks
4. Denver Broncos
5. Kansas City Chiefs

CENTRAL

1. Pittsburgh Steelers
2. Cincinnati Bengals
3. Cleveland Browns
4. Houston Oilers

EAST

1. New England Patriots
2. Miami Dolphins
3. Buffalo Bills
4. New York Jets
5. Indianapolis Colts



Larrye Weaver, who spent only one season in Cleveland and was supposed to usher in the new era as McDonald's guru, resigned the day before the 1984 draft. His reason was a mystery. His successor is Joe Scanella. The Los Angeles Raiders don't have coordinators, at least not officially, but Charlie Sumner actually ran the Raider defense, and it was he who made the key lineup change—Jack Squirek for Matt Millen—which led to Squirek's game-breaking interception for a touchdown just before halftime in last year's Super Bowl. Sumner is now head-coach-in-waiting for the USFL's Oakland Invaders. Replacing Sumner on the Raider staff is Bob Zeman, who resigned as Buffalo's defensive coordinator to rejoin Al Davis. Don Lawrence, who was Buffalo's defensive line coach, got Zeman's duties with the Bills. Earlier, Jerry Glanville left the Bills as defensive backfield coach to become the new defensive coordinator on Hugh Campbell's staff in Houston.

And, of course, there is a new city in the AFC. The Baltimore Colts, a name which belongs in pro football legend, are now the Indianapolis Colts. Robert Irsay, the team's controversial owner, moved the franchise in the dark of night during a period of, as NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle put it, "franchise free agency."

Of the four most dominant players in the AFC now, three are relatively new. Miami quarterback Dan Marino and Seattle running back Curt Warner are starting just their second pro seasons; Raider running back Marcus Allen begins his third. The only veteran among the four is San Diego quarterback Dan Fouts.

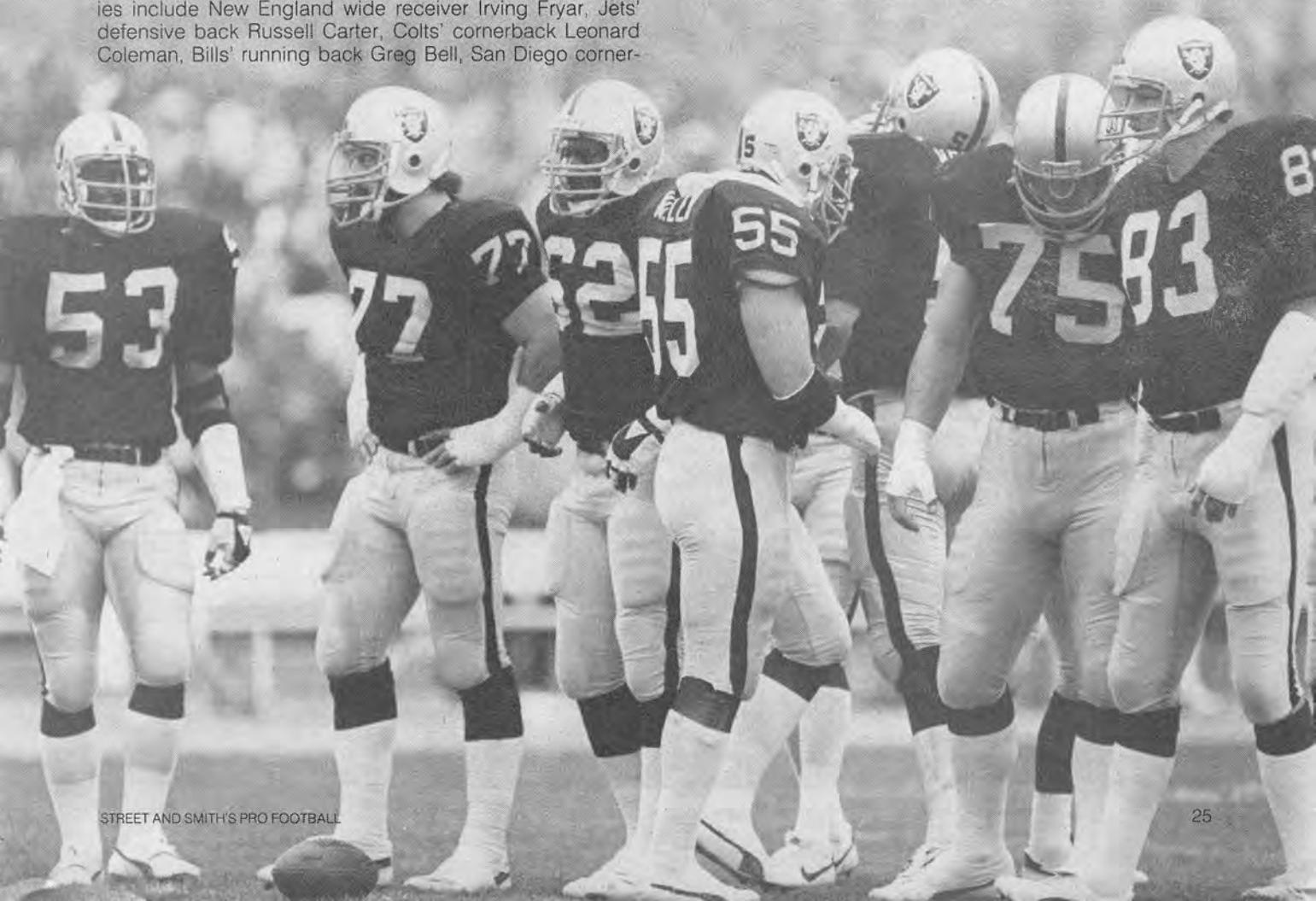
By virtue of trades, the AFC held 17 of the 28 first-round draft choices this year, so there will be even more renewal. Those first-rounders with the best chance of starting as rookies include New England wide receiver Irving Fryar, Jets' defensive back Russell Carter, Colts' cornerback Leonard Coleman, Bills' running back Greg Bell, San Diego corner-

back Mossy Cade, Cincinnati linebacker Ricky Hunley, Cleveland safety Don Rogers, Seattle corner Terry Taylor, Pittsburgh wide receiver Louis Lipps, Kansas City nose tackle Bill Maas, and Miami linebacker Jackie Shipp.

Our pick to represent the AFC in the Super Bowl: the Los Angeles Raiders, of course. The Raiders have plenty of just about everything except pass-receiving depth. The only time they are actually vulnerable is when their attention wanders. And while the Raiders are dominating the Western Division, Pittsburgh is likely to win the Central Division again by default, despite the changeover in quarterbacks. Cincinnati has undergone too much change to battle the Steelers all season. Cleveland cannot be considered the same offense under McDonald that it was under Sipe. There could be a major surprise in the AFC East, where New England has grown more powerful. If the Patriots can solve their defensive-line problems and keep quarterback Steve Grogan healthy, they will upset Miami for the title. Look for Miami and San Diego, which should make a comeback with a healthy Dan Fouts at quarterback and an improved defense, as the wild-card teams.

Some of the individual awards should go this way:

- *Ground gaining:* Curt Warner, Seattle.
- *Passing:* Dan Fouts, San Diego.
- *Receiving:* Cris Collinsworth, Cincinnati.
- *Scoring:* Rich Karlis, Denver.
- *Punt returns:* Rickie Smith, New England.
- *Kickoff returns:* Carl Roaches, Houston.
- *Punting:* Rich Camarillo, New England.
- *Offensive rookie of the year:* Irving Fryar, New England.
- *Defensive rookie of the year:* Mossy Cade, San Diego.
- *Most valuable player:* Dan Fouts, San Diego.



AFCwest

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

The Raiders, as noted on page 20, have been in the midst of a semi-dynasty for more than a decade. The Super Bowl champions could have a far better team in 1984 than they did in '83. Consider the ways:

1. They will have Mike Haynes at quarterback all season. It took the threat of a lawsuit to get him into their lineup after the midpoint of last season. He had been idle as the result of a months-long holdout from the New England Patriots prior to the trade which sent him to L.A. A "rusty" Haynes was expert enough, as it turned out.

2. The left side of the Raiders' offensive line could be different from the one which beat Washington in the Super Bowl. Tackle Bruce Davis will be challenged by both Don Mosebar, last year's No. 1 draft choice, and Shelby Jordan, who came to L.A. late in the season after a trade with the Patriots. Curt Marsh, a superb guard who was hurt for the second half of the '83 season, will battle Charley Hannah for his old job.

3. Marcus Allen should stay healthy for a larger portion of the regular season than he did in '83.

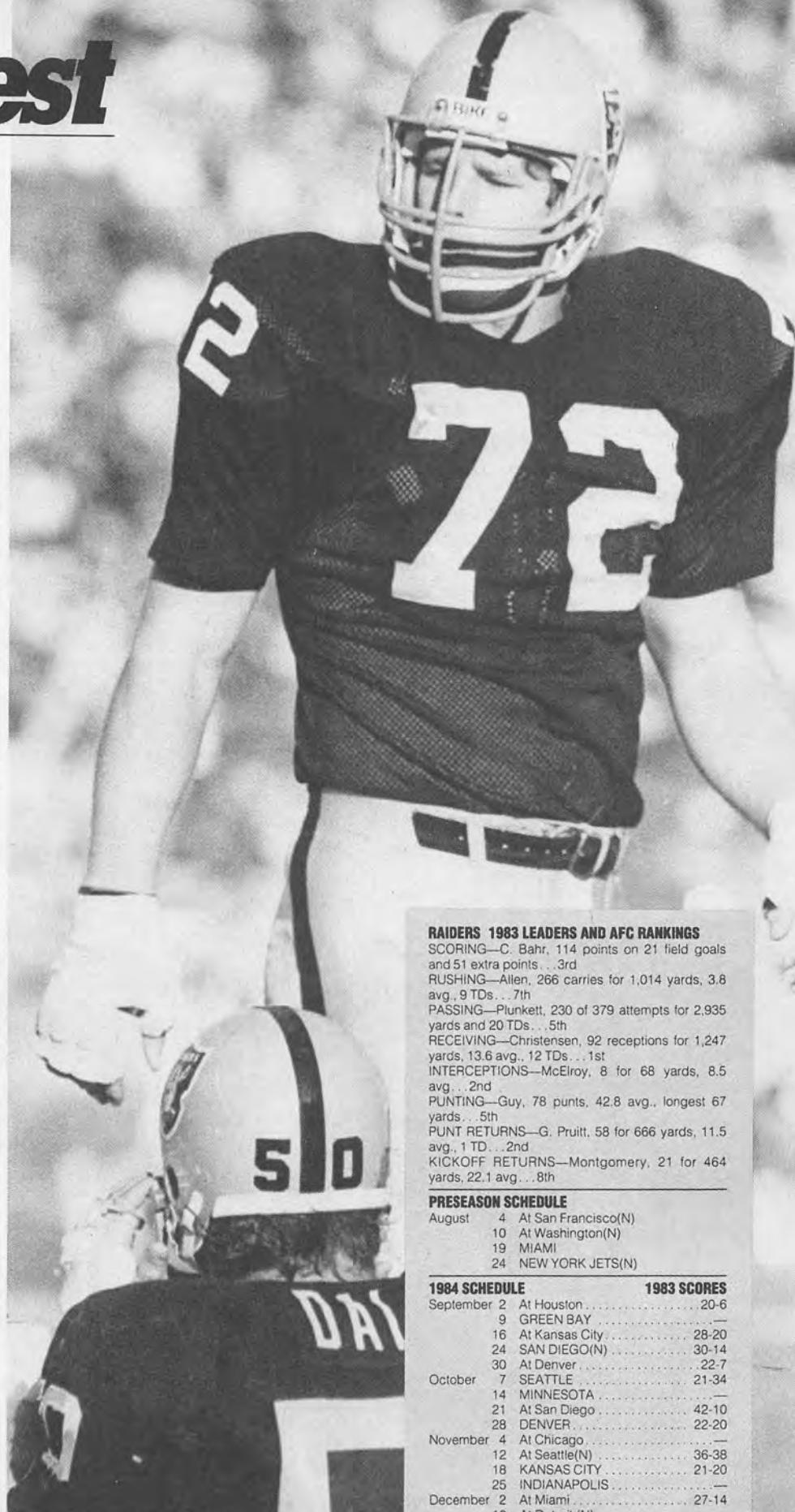
4. Greg Townsend and Bill Pickel, the two rookie pass rushers who played so effectively, will have a year's experience.

5. Marc Wilson could be the starting quarterback and a more effective one than Jim Plunkett.

Considering that Plunkett played well at crunch time and in the playoffs, as well as in the Super Bowl, it seems strange to suggest that he could be beaten out by Wilson. But that is just what happened at midseason, when Wilson took over and promptly supervised a hair-raising victory over the Cowboys in Dallas. If he had not suffered a shoulder injury shortly afterwards, it's conceivable that the Raiders would have gone into the Super Bowl with Wilson at quarterback.

But how can anyone count out Plunkett, taking into consideration all of his career comebacks? This will be one of the more interesting intramural duels of the season. Plunkett threw for 2,935 yards, completed 60.7 percent of his throws, and had 20 touchdown passes in the regular season. Wilson played less than a third as much, completing 57.3 percent of his passes for 864 yards. His touchdown pass percentage was higher than Plunkett's (8 for 6.8 percent, to Plunkett's 5.3 percent), but Marc also had a higher interception percentage (6.1 to 4.7). Wilson sometimes resembles

Raider tackle Don Mosebar will challenge for a starting role.



RAIDERS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—C. Bahr, 114 points on 21 field goals and 51 extra points...3rd
RUSHING—Allen, 266 carries for 1,014 yards, 3.8 avg., 9 TDs...7th
PASSING—Plunkett, 230 of 379 attempts for 2,935 yards and 20 TDs...5th
RECEIVING—Christensen, 92 receptions for 1,247 yards, 13.6 avg., 12 TDs...1st
INTERCEPTIONS—McElroy, 8 for 68 yards, 8.5 avg...2nd
PUNTING—Guy, 78 punts, 42.8 avg., longest 67 yards...5th
PUNT RETURNS—G. Pruitt, 58 for 666 yards, 11.5 avg., 1 TD...2nd
KICKOFF RETURNS—Montgomery, 21 for 464 yards, 22.1 avg...8th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|---------------------|
| August | 4 | At San Francisco(N) |
| | 10 | At Washington(N) |
| | 19 | MIAMI |
| | 24 | NEW YORK JETS(N) |

| 1984 SCHEDULE | | 1983 SCORES |
|---------------|----|--------------------------|
| September | 2 | At Houston.....20-6 |
| | 9 | GREEN BAY.....28-20 |
| | 16 | At Kansas City.....30-14 |
| | 24 | SAN DIEGO(N).....22-7 |
| | 30 | At Denver.....21-34 |
| October | 7 | SEATTLE.....42-10 |
| | 14 | MINNESOTA.....22-20 |
| | 21 | At San Diego.....36-38 |
| | 28 | DENVER.....21-20 |
| November | 4 | At Chicago.....25-18 |
| | 12 | At Seattle(N).....25-25 |
| | 18 | KANSAS CITY.....27-14 |
| | 25 | INDIANAPOLIS.....— |
| December | 2 | At Miami.....27-14 |
| | 10 | At Detroit (N).....— |
| | 16 | PITTSBURGH.....— |

an ostrich on the move, but he's still more mobile than Plunkett.

Allen struggled during his sophomore season as a pro. His longest run was 19 yards and his per-carry average just 3.8 yards, but he did score nine touchdowns and gained 1,014 yards. What set him apart was his superb play against Seattle in the American Conference championship game, then his virtuoso most-valuable-player performance in the Super Bowl. Perhaps the best pass-receiving back in the NFL now, Allen, the ex-high school quarterback, passed for three touchdowns on the option play.

Frank Hawkins, a tough, reliable short-yardage runner and blocker, averaged 4.8 yards on 110 carries as Allen's partner. What the Raiders could use, however, is the Kenny King of 1980-81. King was about half that player in 1983. The draft brings Joe McCall from the University of Pittsburgh.

The most dependable receiver is all-pro tight end Todd Christensen, who caught 92 passes and scored a dozen touchdowns a year ago. Christensen gets open and he's sure-handed. The question is how much longer Cliff Branch can continue to be a premium player. He averaged 17.8 yards on 39 catches last year, but he's 36 now. The Raiders could use more output from Malcolm Barnwell (35 catches but only one touchdown) and quick development by Calvin Muhammad (19.4-yard average on his 13 catches). Another receiving possibility is a large dose of double tight end, now that Don Hasselbeck, obtained from the Patriots late in the season, is available from the start. Hasselbeck is especially dangerous around the goal line.

Whether Jordan, Marsh, or Mosebar crashes this year's starting lineup, the Raiders will have one of their deepest lines in years. Right tackle Henry Lawrence and right guard Mickey Marvin are near or at the Pro Bowl class. Dave Dalby has been the center for a football generation.

It's on defense where the Raiders take on their full personality. Townsend and Pickel were the dessert course for the defensive line. If Lyle Alzado still has some football left, the front line will remain the same: all-pro Howie Long at left end, Reggie Kinlaw, the Super Bowl star, at nose tackle, and Alzado at right end. If Alzado slips, Townsend should move into his spot. The Raiders, who traded their No. 1 draft choice to New England for Haynes, went to Boston for their top pick, second rounder Sean Jones, a 6-7 defensive end from Northeastern.

There could be one major alteration among the linebackers. The play of Ted Hendricks went downhill noticeably late last season, and if he doesn't make a comeback at 37, Jack Squirek, who fired the fatal shot into the Redskins in the Super Bowl, is likely to inherit his spot. The rest is a Raider strength. Rod Martin is a Pro Bowler. Matt Millen pounds the run and Bob Nelson is quietly efficient.

The defense has as much versatility, toughness, speed, quickness, and, certainly, the power of intimidation as any team in football.

The secondary is its crowning glory. You start with the corners. Haynes and Lester Hayes may be the best pair in the last 20 years. These two can take away any outside receivers in the Raiders' traditional man-to-man defense. They are capable of playing any coverage and their dependability allows the pass rush to get that extra second to reach a quarterback. With Haynes around all season, the Raiders might exceed their 57 sacks of 1983.

The safeties are also outstanding. Vann McElroy, a quarterback at Baylor, was named to the Pro Bowl in his second season. On a less spectacular defense, Mike Davis, fast, tough, and very intelligent, might get far more notoriety. Odis McKinney is a valuable nickel back. Kenny Hill, Ted Watts, James David, and Stacey Toran, a draft pick from Notre Dame, give the Raiders admirable depth.

The star of the special teams is the veteran Greg Pruitt, who averaged 11.5 yards on his 58 punt returns.

RAIDERS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 32 | Allen, Marcus | RB | 6-2 | 205 | 3 | 24 | Southern Cal |
| 77 | Alzado, Lyle | DE | 6-3 | 260 | 14 | 35 | Yankton |
| 10 | Bahr, Chris | K | 5-10 | 175 | 9 | 31 | Penn St. |
| 56 | Barnes, Jeff | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 8 | 29 | California |
| 80 | Barnwell, Malcolm | WR | 5-11 | 185 | 4 | 26 | Virginia Union |
| 40 | Berns, Rick | RB | 6-2 | 215 | 5 | 28 | Nebraska |
| 21 | Branch, Cliff | WR | 5-11 | 170 | 13 | 36 | Colorado |
| 54 | Byrd, Darryl | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 2 | 24 | Illinois |
| 57 | Caldwell, Tony | LB | 6-1 | 225 | 2 | 23 | Washington |
| 46 | Christensen, Todd | TE | 6-3 | 230 | 6 | 28 | Bryham Young |
| 50 | Dalby, Dave | C | 6-3 | 250 | 13 | 34 | UCLA |
| 79 | Davis, Bruce | T | 6-6 | 280 | 6 | 28 | UCLA |
| 45 | Davis, James | CB | 6-0 | 195 | 3 | 27 | Southern U |
| 36 | Davis, Mike | S | 6-3 | 205 | 7 | 28 | Colorado |
| 8 | Guy, Ray | P | 6-3 | 190 | 12 | 35 | Southern Miss |
| 73 | Hannah, Charley | G | 6-5 | 260 | 8 | 29 | Alabama |
| 87 | Hasselbeck, Don | TE | 6-7 | 245 | 8 | 29 | Colorado |
| 27 | Hawkins, Frank | RB | 5-9 | 200 | 4 | 25 | Nevada-Reno |
| 37 | Hayes, Lester | CB | 6-0 | 200 | 8 | 29 | Texas A&M |
| 22 | Haynes, Mike | CB | 6-2 | 190 | 9 | 31 | Arizona St. |
| 83 | Hendricks, Ted | LB | 6-7 | 240 | 16 | 37 | Miami |
| 48 | Hill, Kenny | S | 6-0 | 195 | 4 | 26 | Yale |
| 11 | Humm, David | QB | 6-2 | 190 | 10 | 32 | Nebraska |
| 31 | Jensen, Derrick | TE | 6-1 | 220 | 6 | 28 | Tex-Arlington |
| 64 | Jordan, Shelby | T | 6-7 | 285 | 9 | 32 | Wash. (MO) |
| 33 | King, Kenny | RB | 5-11 | 205 | 6 | 27 | Oklahoma |
| 62 | Kinlaw, Reggie | DT | 6-2 | 245 | 5 | 27 | Oklahoma |
| 70 | Lawrence, Henry | T | 6-4 | 270 | 11 | 33 | Florida A&M |
| 75 | Long, Howie | DE | 6-5 | 270 | 4 | 24 | Villanova |
| 60 | Marsh, Curt | G | 6-5 | 270 | 3 | 25 | Washington |
| 53 | Martin, Rod | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 8 | 30 | Southern Cal |
| 65 | Marvin, Mickey | G | 6-4 | 265 | 8 | 29 | Tennessee |
| 26 | McElroy, Vann | S | 6-2 | 190 | 3 | 24 | Baylor |
| 23 | McKinney, Odis | S | 6-2 | 190 | 7 | 27 | Colorado |
| 55 | Millen, Matt | LB | 6-2 | 250 | 4 | 26 | Penn St. |
| 28 | Montgomery, C. | WR | 5-8 | 180 | 4 | 28 | Abilene Christ. |
| 72 | Mosebar, Don | T | 6-6 | 270 | 2 | 23 | Southern Cal |
| 82 | Muhammad, Calvin | WR | 5-11 | 190 | 3 | 26 | Texas Southern |
| 76 | Muransky, Ed | T | 6-7 | 275 | 3 | 21 | Michigan |
| 51 | Nelson, Bob | LB | 6-4 | 235 | 8 | 31 | Nebraska |
| 25 | Phillips, Irvin | CB | 6-1 | 190 | 3 | 24 | Arkansas Tech |
| 71 | Pickel, Bill | DE | 6-5 | 260 | 2 | 25 | Rutgers |
| 16 | Plunkett, Jim | QB | 6-2 | 215 | 14 | 37 | Stanford |
| 34 | Pruitt, Greg | RB | 5-10 | 190 | 12 | 33 | Oklahoma |
| 68 | Robinson, Johnny | DL | 6-2 | 255 | 4 | 26 | La. Tech |
| 52 | Romano, Jim | C | 6-3 | 250 | 3 | 25 | Penn St. |
| 58 | Squirek, Jack | LB | 6-4 | 225 | 3 | 25 | Illinois |
| 66 | Sylvester, Steve | C-G | 6-4 | 260 | 10 | 31 | Notre Dame |
| 93 | Townsend, Greg | DE | 6-3 | 240 | 2 | 23 | TCU |
| 20 | Watts, Ted | CB | 6-0 | 195 | 4 | 25 | Texas Tech |
| 85 | Williams, Dokie | WR | 5-11 | 180 | 2 | 24 | UCLA |
| 38 | Willis, Chester | RB | 5-11 | 195 | 4 | 26 | Auburn |
| 6 | Wilson, Marc | QB | 6-6 | 220 | 5 | 27 | Bryham Young |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|--------------|
| 2 | Jones, Sean | DE | 6-7 | 260 | Northeastern |
| 3 | McCall, Joe | RB | 5-11 | 210 | Pittsburgh |
| 5 | Parker, Andy | TE | 6-5 | 225 | Utah |
| 6 | Toran, Stacey | DB | 6-2 | 205 | Notre Dame |
| 7 | Willis, Mitch | DE | 6-8 | 270 | SMU |
| 8 | Seale, Sam | WR | 5-8 | 175 | Western St. |
| 11 | Williams, Gardner | DB | 6-3 | 195 | St. Mary's |
| 12 | Essington, Randy | QB | 6-3 | 210 | Colorado |

Cornerback Mike Haynes (top) and defensive ends Bill Pickel, Lyle Alzado (#77), and Howie Long (right) of the champion Raiders



SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

It was early November, Pittsburgh vs. San Diego. For the second time in three weeks the Chargers were held without a touchdown as quarterback Dan Fouts remained on the injured list. Pittsburgh won, 26-3.

"If Fouts isn't the best quarterback in the league, he's one of the best. They rally around him. He's able to pick up the open receivers," says cornerback Dwayne Woodruff of the Steelers, speaking of Fouts's absence and the play of Ed Luther, his replacement. "Luther is a split-second slower getting rid of the ball."

Early December, Denver vs. San Diego. Fouts returned. He threw for 299 yards and two touchdowns—to Kellen Winslow—as San Diego won, 31-7.

"It didn't look like Fouts had any trouble picking our secondary apart," says Broncos' wide receiver Steve Watson. "He's a master."

He looks left, he looks right, he looks left again. He's the only quarterback I've ever seen who can look three ways."

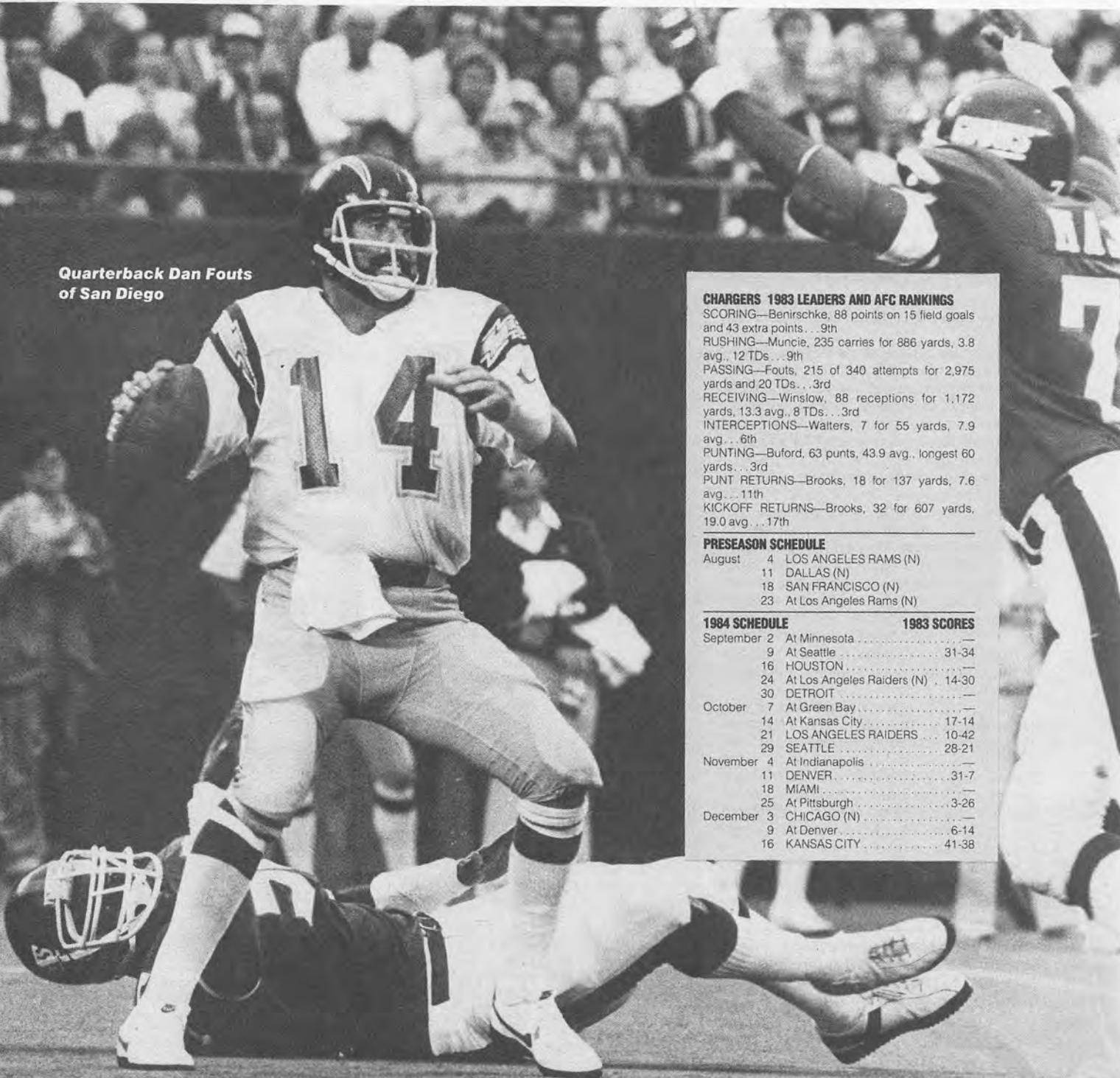
Fouts is 33 years old. He's been a pro since 1973, a successful pro since Don Coryell became his coach in 1978. It's obvious he has a lot left. The Chargers' first step toward a recovery is fairly simple: Don't allow Fouts to be hurt. With Fouts injured for a large portion of last year, San Diego was a 6-10 team. With Fouts healthy for 16 games they are a playoff team. With an improved defense, who knows? Even with all his physical troubles, Fouts had a fine year, statistically. On a prorated basis, he had one of his best seasons: 2,975 yards, a 63.2 completion percentage, 20 touchdown passes in just 340 passing attempts, and an 8.75-yard average gain per attempt.

Fouts's collaborators, including 36-year-old

Charlie Joiner, performed well, considering Fouts's absence. Joiner, in fact, was voted the Chargers' most valuable player by his teammates in his fifteenth pro season. He caught 65 passes for 960 yards. Joiner caught at least two passes in each of the Chargers' 16 games. He now has a consecutive reception streak of 75 games. The great tight end Kellen Winslow led the Chargers with 88 catches, 1,172 yards, and eight touchdowns. Pro Bowl receiver Wes Chandler caught 58 passes and scored five times. Joiner's eventual successor, Bobby Duckworth, averaged 21.1 yards on his 20 catches, with five TDs.

The Chargers won't be able to get along on their passing game alone, no matter how well Fouts stands the heat. They need a comeback from Chuck Muncie, their top running back. His 3.8 per-carry average was his lowest in

Quarterback Dan Fouts
of San Diego

**CHARGERS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS**

SCORING—Benirschke, 88 points on 15 field goals and 43 extra points...9th
RUSHING—Muncie, 235 carries for 886 yards, 3.8 avg., 12 TDs...9th
PASSING—Fouts, 215 of 340 attempts for 2,975 yards and 20 TDs...3rd
RECEIVING—Winslow, 88 receptions for 1,172 yards, 13.3 avg., 8 TDs...3rd
INTERCEPTIONS—Walters, 7 for 55 yards, 7.9 avg...6th
PUNTING—Buford, 63 punts, 43.9 avg., longest 60 yards...3rd
PUNT RETURNS—Brooks, 18 for 137 yards, 7.6 avg...11th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Brooks, 32 for 607 yards, 19.0 avg...17th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| August | 4 | LOS ANGELES RAMS (N) |
|--------|----|-------------------------|
| | 11 | DALLAS (N) |
| | 18 | SAN FRANCISCO (N) |
| | 23 | At Los Angeles Rams (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | September | 2 | At Minnesota | 1983 SCORES |
|----------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 4 | At Seattle | 31-34 | |
| | 11 | HOUSTON | — | |
| | 16 | At Los Angeles Raiders (N) | 14-30 | |
| | 24 | DETROIT | — | |
| | 30 | At Green Bay | — | |
| October | 7 | At Kansas City | 17-14 | |
| | 14 | LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 10-42 | |
| | 21 | SEATTLE | 28-21 | |
| | 29 | At Indianapolis | — | |
| November | 4 | DENVER | 31-7 | |
| | 11 | MIAMI | — | |
| | 18 | At Pittsburgh | 3-26 | |
| December | 3 | CHICAGO (N) | — | |
| | 9 | At Denver | 6-14 | |
| | 16 | KANSAS CITY | 41-38 | |

seven years, dating back to his days with the New Orleans Saints. Nevertheless, he did score a dozen touchdowns. One problem for the San Diego running game is that James Brooks, who gained 516 yards, won't play fullback alongside Muncie. So Brooks was traded to the Cincinnati Bengals for fullback Pete Johnson. Inevitably, each San Diego draft has its offensive gems. This time it could be Auburn's little back Lionel James and Alabama wide receiver Jesse Bendross.

Coryell and offensive line coach Dave Levy started to change their aging offensive line last year. Andrew Gissinger replaced the departed Russ Washington at right tackle. Dennis McKnight beat out Don Macek for the center job. Ed White, the 37-year-old right guard, seems indestructible. He was voted the team's lineman of the year. White has played in 88 of a possible 89 regular-season games and all seven postseason games since becoming a Charger. Including his earlier career in Minnesota, he has played in 24 postseason games, just three off the NFL record. Doug Wilkerson suffered a broken elbow early in the season but returned, at age 36, to reclaim his left-guard spot. Billy Shields, a ten-year veteran, remains the left tackle. Eric Seivers and Pete Holohan come into the game in special blocking situations as extra tight ends.

The Chargers have spent the last three seasons drafting and trading to improve their defense, but it hasn't had much effect yet. In 11 of their 16 games last season, San Diego surrendered 26 points or more. The Chargers' overall yield of 462 points was the highest in the NFL, by far. They are trying the trade route again. This offseason they dealt with the New York Jets for two defensive linemen, Kenny Neil and Abdul Salaam, and with the New York Giants for linebacker Brian Kelley.

The San Diego Chargers feature linebacker/end Billy Ray Smith (#54), running back Chuck Muncie (below right), and nonpareil tight end Kellen Winslow (above).

The trade for Kelley is intriguing. Defensive coordinator Tom Bass used two rookies, No. 1 draft pick Billy Ray Smith and Mike Green, as his inside linebackers in '83. Kelley is strictly an inside backer. Green outperformed Smith, making many all-rookie teams. Smith, a defensive end at Arkansas, struggled in his new position. It could be that Smith's season at linebacker was strictly an experiment, just as Dallas experimented with Randy White as a linebacker when he was a rookie. It could be that Billy Ray will find himself as a pro end.

The Chargers had only 31 sacks in '83. Gary Johnson is the only incumbent starting lineman with any sort of credentials. Neil should challenge Keith Ferguson at left end, at least for part-time work. Ferguson beat out Leroy Jones last year. Salaam, assuming his rotator cuff problems are over, will contend with incumbent Rick Ackerman and Bill Elko, who played some at nose tackle as a rookie. Smith could tangle the whole picture, however, if his position is switched.

Linden King and Woodrow Lowe are the incumbent outside backers, with Carlos Bradley, Ray Preston, and ex-Bronco Larry Evans in reserve. Kelley should upgrade the inside defense. The backups are Clifford Thrift and Derrie Nelson, who was voted the top special-teams' performer.

The bad news in the secondary is that the Chargers may have wasted a first-round draft choice on Gill Byrd. A fine athlete, Byrd was "red flagged" by a number of NFL team doctors at draft time last year, but San Diego took a chance on the San Jose State corner anyway. When he was healthy, Byrd played well, but his knee problems seemed to get the better of him. The good news was that Danny Walters, the fourth-round draft choice, showed a great deal of promise as a starter on the right side. Reuben Henderson is the incumbent left corner. Two retreads, Tim Fox and Ken Greene, play the safety positions.

Rolf Benirschke kicked 15 field goals in 24 tries, but the alarming part was his 3 for 10 performance from beyond the 40-yard line.



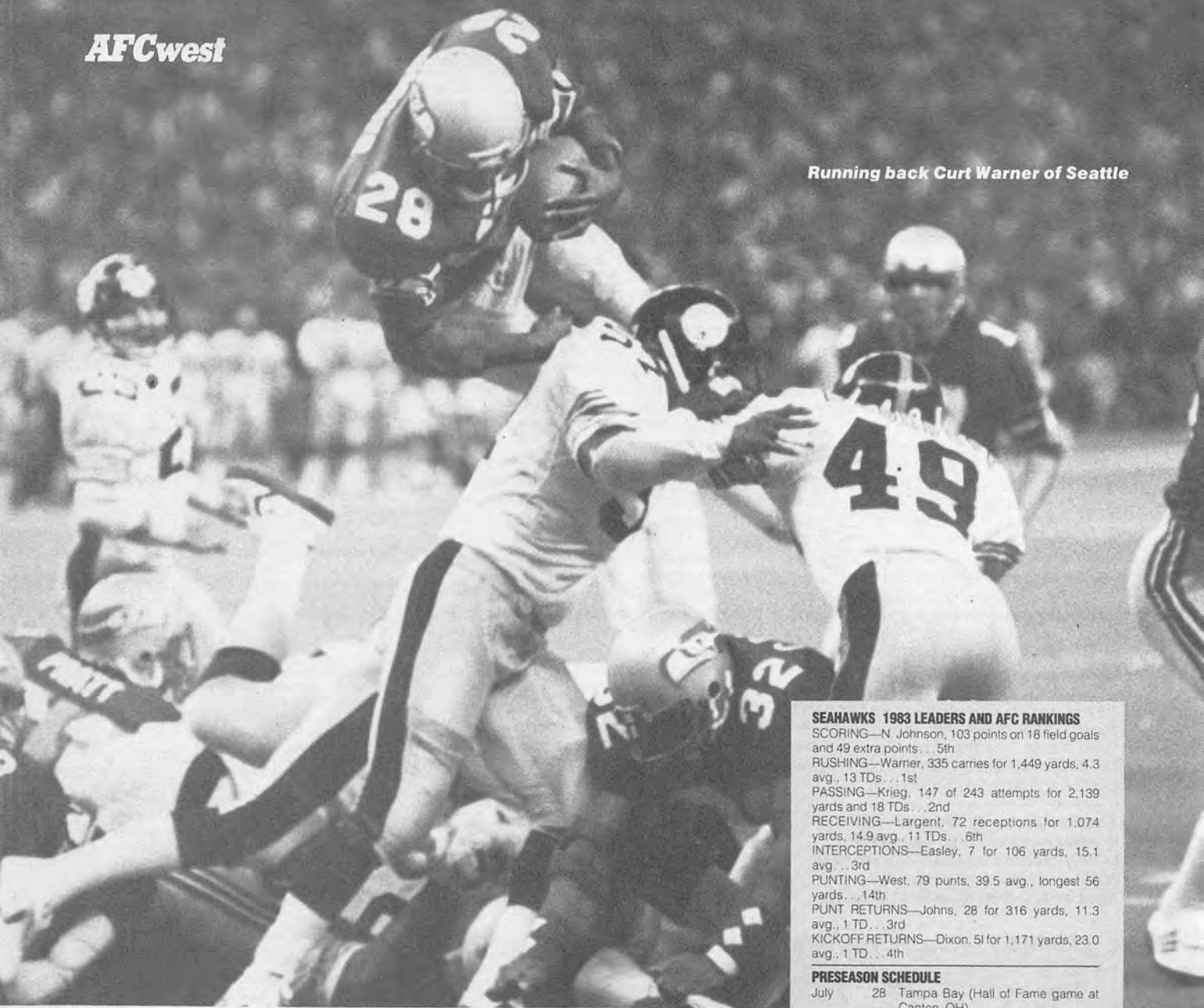
CHARGERS VETERAN ROSTER

| name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| 91 Ackerman, Rick | NT | 6-4 | 254 | 3 | 25 | Memphis St. |
| 6 Benirschke, Rolf | K | 6-1 | 179 | 8 | 29 | Cal-Davis |
| 50 Bradley, Carlos | LB | 6-0 | 226 | 4 | 24 | Wake Forest |
| 21 Brooks, James | RB | 5-9 | 177 | 4 | 26 | Auburn |
| 61 Brown, Don | T | 6-6 | 262 | 2 | 25 | Santa Clara |
| 7 Buford, Maury | P | 6-0 | 185 | 3 | 24 | Texas Tech |
| 22 Byrd, Gill | CB | 5-11 | 191 | 2 | 23 | San Jose St. |
| 89 Chandler, Wes | WR | 6-0 | 183 | 7 | 28 | Florida |
| 77 Clapham, Sam | T | 6-6 | 267 | 4 | 28 | Oklahoma |
| 82 Duckworth, Bobby | WR | 6-3 | 197 | 3 | 26 | Arkansas |
| 78 Ehin, Chuck | DE | 6-4 | 254 | 2 | 23 | Bingham Young |
| 72 Elko, Bill | G | 6-5 | 277 | 2 | 25 | LSU |
| 56 Evans, Larry | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 9 | 31 | Miss College |
| 76 Ferguson, Keith | DE | 6-5 | 241 | 4 | 25 | Ohio St. |
| 84 Fortune, Hosea | WR | 6-0 | 175 | 2 | 25 | Rice |
| 14 Fouts, Dan | QB | 6-3 | 205 | 12 | 33 | Oregon |
| 48 Fox, Tim | S | 5-11 | 186 | 9 | 31 | Ohio St. |
| 75 Gissinger, Andy | T | 6-5 | 277 | 3 | 25 | Syracuse |
| 69 Goforth, Derrel | OL | 6-3 | 260 | 8 | 29 | Oklahoma St. |
| 58 Green, Mike | LB | 6-0 | 226 | 2 | 23 | Oklahoma St. |
| 28 Greene, Ken | S | 6-3 | 203 | 7 | 28 | Washington St. |
| 43 Gregor, Bob | S | 6-2 | 190 | 4 | 27 | Washington St. |
| 20 Henderson, Reuben | CB | 6-1 | 188 | 4 | 26 | San Diego St. |
| 88 Holohan, Peter | TE | 6-4 | 240 | 4 | 25 | Notre Dame |
| 41 Jackson, Ernest | RB | 5-10 | 208 | 2 | 25 | Texas A&M |
| 40 Jodat, Jim | RB | 5-11 | 213 | 8 | 30 | Carthage |
| 79 Johnson, Gary | DE | 6-2 | 255 | 10 | 32 | Grambling |
| 18 Joiner, Charlie | WR | 5-11 | 180 | 16 | 37 | Grambling |
| Kelley, Brian | LB | 6-3 | 222 | 12 | 33 | Cal Luheran |
| 18 King, Linden | LB | 6-5 | 245 | 7 | 29 | Colorado St. |
| 64 Loewen, Chuck | OL | 6-4 | 264 | 4 | 27 | S. Dakota St. |
| 51 Lowe, Woodrow | LB | 6-0 | 226 | 9 | 30 | Alabama |
| 11 Luther, Ed | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 5 | 27 | San Jose St. |
| 62 Macek, Don | C | 6-2 | 260 | 9 | 30 | Boise State |
| 12 Mathison, Bruce | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 2 | 25 | Nebraska |
| 60 McKnight, Dennis | OL | 6-3 | 260 | 3 | 25 | Drake |
| 24 McPherson, Miles | CB | 6-0 | 183 | 3 | 24 | New Haven |
| 46 Muncie, Chuck | RB | 6-2 | 228 | 10 | 31 | California |
| Neil, Kenny | DL | 6-4 | 255 | 4 | 25 | Iowa St. |
| 55 Nelson, Derrie | LB | 6-1 | 234 | 2 | 26 | Nebraska |
| Salaam, Abdul | DT | 6-3 | 269 | 9 | 31 | Ken St. |
| 66 Shields, Billy | T | 6-8 | 284 | 10 | 31 | Georgia Tech |
| 85 Sieters, Eric | TE | 6-3 | 233 | 4 | 26 | Maryland |
| 54 Smith, Billy Ray | LB | 6-3 | 239 | 2 | 23 | Arkansas |
| 47 Smith, Sherman | RB | 6-4 | 225 | 9 | 30 | Miami (OH) |
| 59 Thrift, Clifford | LB | 6-1 | 230 | 6 | 28 | E. Central Ok. |
| 23 Walters, Danny | CB | 6-1 | 187 | 2 | 24 | Arkansas |
| 67 White, Ed | G | 6-2 | 279 | 16 | 37 | California |
| 63 Wilkerson, Doug | G | 6-3 | 258 | 15 | 37 | N. C. Central |
| 45 Williams, Henry | CB | 6-0 | 180 | 3 | 28 | San Diego St. |
| 80 Winslow, Kellen | TE | 6-5 | 251 | 6 | 27 | Missouri |
| 49 Young, Andre | S | 6-0 | 203 | 3 | 24 | La. Tech |

DRAFTEES

| name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| 1 Cade, Mossy | DB | 6-0 | 185 | Texas |
| 2 Guendling, Mike | LB | 6-3 | 248 | Northwestern |
| 5 James, Lionel | KR | 5-7 | 170 | Auburn |
| 6 Guthrie, Keith | DT | 6-5 | 250 | Texas A&M |
| 7 Bendross, Jesse | WR | 6-1 | 186 | Alabama |
| 8 Woodard, Raymond | DT | 6-5 | 250 | Texas |
| 9 Craighead, Bob | RB | 6-2 | 225 | NE Louisiana |
| 9 Barnes, Zack | DT | 6-5 | 255 | Alabama St. |
| 11 McGee, Buford | RB | 6-1 | 211 | Mississippi |
| 12 Harper, Maurice | WR | 6-0 | 183 | La. Tech |



**Running back Curt Warner of Seattle****SEATTLE SEAHAWKS**

Whether Chuck Knox goes on to win a Super Bowl, or even several Super Bowls, the job he did with the 1983 Seahawks is likely to cap his illustrious coaching career. Nothing he did in winning five consecutive division championships with the Los Angeles Rams or in rebuilding a decrepit franchise in Buffalo equals his getting a mediocre Seattle team into the American Conference championship game. The truth is that the Seahawks, on paper, aren't very good. They have the look of a non-playoff team, just as they were for the entire history of the franchise.

The Seahawks have three excellent players: running back Curt Warner, safety Kenny Easley, and defensive end Jacob Green. They have five very good ones: wide receivers Steve Largent and Paul Johns, offensive tackle Steve August, center Blair Bush, and defensive end Jeff Bryant. The rest of the players are average-to-below average, including quarterback Dave Krieg. Why else would Se-

attle have been a serious bidder for ex-Canadian League star Warren Moon? The Seahawks won last year on a great deal of grit, a large dose of luck (they benefited from a two-year supply of turnovers in the two regular-season victories over the Raiders alone), and great coaching.

It will be difficult for the Seahawks to improve themselves through the draft or trades or signing free agents (Moon was the only possible chance they had). They'll have to get better by developing what talent they have, which, considering the coaching accomplishment of last year, is possible. Knox traded up to get Warner in the first round, dealing most of the rest of his draft. He traded next year's No. 1 for Bush. Those were bold, solid moves. Why worry about tomorrow when you have to deal with today?

Well, tomorrow is here. It won't be easy for Seattle. How much more can the Seahawks get out of Warner than the 1,449 yards rush-

SEAHAWKS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—N. Johnson, 103 points on 18 field goals and 49 extra points... 5th
RUSHING—Warner, 335 carries for 1,449 yards, 4.3 avg., 13 TDs... 2nd
PASSING—Krieg, 147 of 243 attempts for 2,139 yards and 18 TDs... 2nd
RECEIVING—Largent, 72 receptions for 1,074 yards, 14.9 avg., 11 TDs... 6th
INTERCEPTIONS—Easley, 7 for 106 yards, 15.1 avg... 3rd
PUNTING—West, 79 punts, 39.5 avg., longest 56 yards... 14th
PUNT RETURNS—Johns, 28 for 316 yards, 11.3 avg., 1 TD... 3rd
KICKOFF RETURNS—Dixon, 51 for 1,171 yards, 23.0 avg., 1 TD... 4th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|---|
| July | 28 | Tampa Bay (Hall of Fame game at Canton, OH) |
| August | 4 | BUFFALO (N) |
| | 11 | At Detroit (N) |
| | 17 | ST. LOUIS (N) |
| | 24 | At San Francisco (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|----|------------------------------------|
| September | 2 | CLEVELAND 24-9 |
| | 9 | SAN DIEGO 34-31 |
| | 16 | At New England 24-6 |
| | 23 | CHICAGO — |
| | 30 | At Minnesota — |
| October | 7 | At Los Angeles Raiders 34-21 |
| | 14 | BUFFALO — |
| | 21 | vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee — |
| | 29 | At San Diego (N) 21-28 |
| November | 4 | KANSAS CITY (ovt) 51-48 |
| | 12 | LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N) 38-36 |
| | 18 | At Cincinnati — |
| | 25 | At Denver 27-38 |
| December | 2 | DETROIT — |
| | 9 | At Kansas City 13-17 |
| | 15 | DENVER 27-19 |

ing, 325 yards pass receiving, and 14 touchdowns? The former Penn State star is the Seahawks' running game. The second-leading rusher, David Hughes, gained only 313 yards, mostly on counter plays when the defenses were looking for Warner. Cullen Bryant, 33,

had replaced Hughes by the time the playoffs arrived. Anyone lining up next to Warner is going to be a glorified guard anyway. There is no one close to being a replacement for him.

Seattle went halfway through the season with Jim Zorn at quarterback before Knox decided that the inexperienced Krieg was better equipped to run an unfamiliar, ground-oriented attack. The Seahawks' passing game functions mostly off play action. If Warner is running well, there is opportunity for Krieg. His most impressive statistic was 18 touchdown passes in 243 passing attempts. The negative side is that he's not nearly as mobile as Zorn, which is a handicap when the forte of your offensive line is not pass blocking.

Steve Largent, despite the decline of his long-time collaborator, Zorn, had an outstanding year: 72 catches for 1,074 yards and 11 touchdowns. Largent has no more speed than he ever did, but he is an artist at finding the open spot. He has a comer for a partner, Paul Johns, who averaged 14.3 yards on his 34 catches, four of which went for touchdowns. Knox got unexpected mileage from the veteran tight end Charle Young, who averaged 14.7 yards on his 36 catches, but ex-basketball star Pete Metzelaars and Mike Tice are developing behind Young.

August's size is better suited for guard, but line coach Ray Prochaska has little choice but to keep him at tackle. Ron Essink, the other tackle, is improving, but he had a woeful day against Lyle Alzado of the Raiders in the AFC championship. Reggie McKenzie provided leadership and some first-rate lead blocking for Warner, but at 34 he's injury prone, and Edwin Bailey played left guard during the playoffs. The other guard is journeyman Robert Pratt. Bush was worth the first-round draft choice, particularly considering his work against odd-man fronts.

Where the Seahawks have a chance to improve is in the tightening of their defense. Defensive coordinator Tom Catlin plays a com-

plex style which takes time for younger players to absorb. The Seahawks have a lot of young defensive players. Seattle played seven games against playoff teams last season and yielded an average of 29 points per.

One change may be in the use of Jacob Green, who had 16 sacks and returned an interception for a touchdown in '83, as a combination linebacker/down lineman, something on the order of Miami's A.J. Duke. Jeff Bryant is developing into a first-rate end. He had eight sacks last year and led the linemen in tackles. Catlin might do better than Joe Nash at nose tackle.

The linebacking unit boasts one of the NFL's more opportunistic players in Shelton Robinson, who returned fumbles for touchdowns in each of the two regular-season games against the Raiders. The steadiest of the linebackers is Bruce Scholtz, who led the team with 104 tackles and forced three fumbles. The other starters are Keith Butler and Greg Gaines, who recovered four fumbles. The best-known linebacker, Michael Jackson, was hurt late in the year, but he might be too undisciplined for Catlin's scheme anyway.

The prize in the secondary is Pro Bowler Kenny Easley, a Jack Tatum-type but with hands. Easley led the team with seven interceptions and punished receivers and ball carriers. Dave Brown, an original Seahawk who still holds down right corner, had a good year. He intercepted six passes and forced an equal number of fumbles. John Harris is the free safety. The USFL made problems for the Seahawks after the playoffs, signing starting left corner Kerry Justin, nickel back Greggory Johnson, and pass-rush specialist Sam Clancy, the ex-basketball player who had been weaned for the last two seasons. To compensate for the loss of Justin, the Seahawks traded with the Giants for Terry Jackson. Keith Simpson, long a disappointment, will fill the nickel-back role.

Knox used his first-round draft pick to fill in for the USFL defectors, choosing speedy Terry Taylor from Southern Illinois. Wide receiver Daryl Turner, the Michigan State leaper, came next, followed by New Mexico State's big-play linebacker Fred Young and pass rusher Ricky Hagood of South Carolina.

Wide receiver Steve Largent (#80), quarterback Dave Krieg and center Blair Bush, and safety Ken Easley helped the Seahawks advance to the AFC title game last season.



SEAHAWKS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| 76 | August, Steve | T | 6-5 | 258 | 8 | 30 | Tulsa |
| 65 | Bailey, Edwin | G | 6-5 | 265 | 4 | 25 | S.C. St. |
| 22 | Brown, Dave | CB | 6-2 | 190 | 10 | 31 | Michigan |
| 32 | Bryant, Cullen | FB | 6-1 | 236 | 12 | 33 | Colorado |
| 77 | Bryant, Jeff | DE | 6-5 | 270 | 3 | 24 | Clemson |
| 59 | Bush, Blair | C | 6-3 | 252 | 7 | 28 | Washington |
| 53 | Butler, Keith | LB | 6-4 | 225 | 7 | 28 | Memphis St. |
| 83 | Castor, Chris | WR | 6-0 | 170 | 2 | 24 | Duke |
| 31 | Dixon, Zachary | RB | 6-1 | 204 | 6 | 27 | Temple |
| 33 | Doornik, Dan | RB | 6-3 | 210 | 7 | 28 | Washington St. |
| 35 | Dufek, Don | S | 6-0 | 195 | 8 | 30 | Michigan |
| 66 | Dugan, Bill | G | 6-3 | 271 | 4 | 25 | Penn St. |
| 45 | Easley, Ken | S | 6-3 | 205 | 4 | 25 | UCLA |
| 64 | Essink, Ron | T | 6-6 | 260 | 5 | 26 | Grand Valley |
| 50 | Flones, Brian | LB | 6-1 | 228 | 3 | 25 | Washington St. |
| 56 | Gaines, Greg | LB | 6-3 | 220 | 3 | 26 | Tennessee |
| 79 | Green, Jacob | DE | 6-3 | 255 | 5 | 27 | Texas A&M |
| 75 | Hardy, Robert | NT | 6-2 | 250 | 5 | 28 | Jackson St. |
| 44 | Harris, John | S | 6-2 | 200 | 7 | 28 | Arizona St. |
| 69 | Hernandez, Matt | T | 6-6 | 260 | 2 | 23 | Purdue |
| 63 | Hicks, Mark | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 2 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 46 | Hughes, David | RB | 6-0 | 220 | 4 | 25 | Boise St. |
| 70 | Irvin, Darrell | DE | 6-4 | 255 | 5 | 27 | Oklahoma |
| 29 | Jackson, Harold | WR | 5-10 | 175 | 7 | 38 | Jackson St. |
| 55 | Jackson, Michael | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 6 | 27 | Washington |
| | Jackson, Terry | CB | 5-11 | 197 | 7 | 29 | San Diego St. |
| 85 | Johns, Paul | WR | 5-11 | 170 | 4 | 26 | Tulsa |
| 9 | Johnson, Norm | K | 6-2 | 193 | 3 | 24 | UCLA |
| 62 | Kauai, Kani | C | 6-2 | 260 | 3 | 25 | Hawaii |
| 17 | Krieg, Dave | QB | 6-1 | 185 | 5 | 26 | Million |
| 37 | Lane, Eric | RB | 6-0 | 195 | 4 | 25 | Brighton Young |
| 80 | Largent, Steve | WR | 5-10 | 184 | 9 | 30 | Tulsa |
| 67 | McKenzie, Reggie | G | 6-5 | 255 | 13 | 34 | Michigan |
| 51 | Merriman, Sam | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 2 | 23 | Idaho |
| 88 | Metzelaars, Pete | TE | 6-7 | 240 | 3 | 24 | Wabash |
| 21 | Moyer, Paul | S | 6-1 | 201 | 2 | 23 | Arizona St. |
| 72 | Nash, Joe | NT | 6-3 | 250 | 3 | 24 | Boston College |
| 52 | Norman, Joe | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 5 | 28 | Indiana |
| 61 | Pratt, Bob | G | 6-4 | 250 | 11 | 33 | North Carolina |
| 57 | Robinson, Shelton | LB | 6-2 | 233 | 3 | 24 | North Carolina |
| 58 | Scholtz, Bruce | LB | 6-6 | 240 | 3 | 26 | Texas |
| 42 | Simpson, Keith | CB | 6-1 | 195 | 7 | 28 | Memphis St. |
| 86 | Tice, Mike | TE | 6-7 | 250 | 4 | 25 | Maryland |
| 89 | Walker, Byron | WR | 6-4 | 190 | 3 | 24 | Citadel |
| 28 | Warner, Curt | RB | 5-11 | 205 | 2 | 23 | Penn St. |
| 8 | West, Jeff | P | 6-2 | 225 | 9 | 31 | Cincinnati |
| 54 | Williams, Eugene | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 3 | 24 | Tulsa |
| 87 | Young, Charlie | TE | 6-4 | 234 | 12 | 33 | Southern Cal |
| 10 | Zorn, Jim | QB | 6-2 | 200 | 9 | 31 | Cal Poly-Pom. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Taylor, Terry | DB | 5-10 | 175 | S. Illinois |
| 2 | Turner, Darryl | WR | 6-2 | 198 | Michigan St. |
| 3 | Young, Fred | LB | 6-1 | 219 | New Mexico St. |
| 4 | Hagood, Ricky | DT | 6-2 | 295 | South Carolina |
| 5 | Kaiser, John | LB | 6-4 | 221 | Arizona |
| 7 | Slater, Sam | OT | 6-9 | 284 | Weber St. |
| 8 | Puzar, John | C | 6-6 | 255 | Long Beach St. |
| 9 | Schreiber, Adam | OG | 6-4 | 250 | Texas |
| 10 | Morris, Randall | RB | 6-0 | 183 | Tennessee |
| 11 | Gemza, Randall | OT | 6-8 | 277 | UCLA |
| 12 | Windham, Theotis | DE | 6-5 | 265 | Utah St. |



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DENVER BRONCOS

The Cleveland Browns, the Broncos' cousins, were in town and things were going as they were supposed to go from the start. John Elway lofted touchdown passes of 39 and 49 yards to his fellow rookie, Clint Sampson, and Denver was on its way to a 27-6 victory. For the first time as a pro, Elway played a game from start to finish and won it. He had 284 yards on 16 completions in 24 attempts.

"You've got to be happy for John," said Dan Reeves, the Broncos' coach. "He's had so much heat on him, so much has been said about how much better Dan Marino is."

The next week there was a 21-19 victory over Baltimore and a playoff berth. But in Denver these days, happy endings are hard to come by. In the final week of the season, Kansas City cuffed the Broncos all over the stadium for a 48-17 win. When it came time to get ready for the playoffs, Reeves announced that Steve DeBerg, fresh off the injury list, would be the quarterback. The Broncos got buried, 31-7, by Seattle. DeBerg was traded to

Tampa Bay in the spring, and now ex-Giant Scott Brunner will be Elway's backup.

For the record, here is Elway's major statistical line for his first year in pro football.

| Atts | Comps | Yds | Pct. | TD | Ints |
|------|-------|------|------|----|------|
| 259 | 123 | 1663 | 47.5 | 7 | 14 |

It's bad enough that Elway is compared to Marino, who became Miami's wunderkind quarterback in 1983, but he's also compared to the most anticipated rookie pro quarterback of all time, Joe Namath. This is Namath's first-year line.

| Atts | Comps | Yds | Pct. | TD | Ints |
|------|-------|------|------|----|------|
| 340 | 164 | 2220 | 48.2 | 18 | 15 |

Obviously, Elway still has to produce a lot of proof. The judgment of him is beyond scouting reports now. The Broncos scored 17 points or less in half their games last year, and a quarterback with his skills is expected to heal some of that.

One of the principal handicaps for any Denver quarterback is shoddy pass protection. That victory over Cleveland was almost a landmark in that the Browns did not get a sin-

BRONCOS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Karlis, 96 points on 21 field goals and 33 extra points...8th

RUSHING—Winder, 196 carries for 757 yards, 3.9 avg., 3 TDs...12th

PASSING—DeBerg, 119 of 215 attempts for 1,617 yards and 9 TDs...8th

RECEIVING—Watson, 59 receptions for 1,133 yards, 19.2 avg., 5 TDs...11th

INTERCEPTIONS—Wright, 6 for 50 yards, 8.3 avg...11th

PUNTING—Prestridge, 87 punts, 41.6 avg., longest 60 yards...8th

PUNT RETURNS—Z. Thomas, 33 for 368 yards, 11.2 avg., 1 TD...4th

KICKOFF RETURNS—Z. Thomas, 28 for 573 yards, 20.5 avg...12th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|-------------------|
| August | 4 | WASHINGTON (N) |
| | 11 | SAN FRANCISCO (N) |
| | 18 | INDIANAPOLIS (N) |
| | 24 | At Atlanta (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|----|----------------------------------|
| September | 2 | CINCINNATI.....24-17 |
| | 9 | At Chicago.....14-31 |
| | 16 | At Cleveland (N).....27-6 |
| | 23 | KANSAS CITY.....27-24 |
| | 30 | LOS ANGELES RAIDERS.....7-22 |
| October | 7 | At Detroit.....— |
| | 15 | GREEN BAY (N).....— |
| | 21 | At Buffalo.....— |
| | 28 | At Los Angeles Raiders.....20-22 |
| November | 4 | NEW ENGLAND.....— |
| | 11 | At San Diego.....7-31 |
| | 18 | MINNESOTA.....— |
| | 25 | SEATTLE.....38-27 |
| December | 2 | At Kansas City.....17-48 |
| | 9 | SAN DIEGO.....14-6 |
| | 15 | At Seattle.....19-27 |

gle sack. But even with that game, the Broncos still allowed 55 sacks overall. Aside from center Billy Bryan, the line does not contain a player of quality. Both guards, Keith Bishop and Paul Howard, and both tackles, Ken Lanier and Dave Studdard, are journeymen. There should be some starting work for Mark Cooper, a second-round draft choice a year ago, at either guard or tackle. The problem is compounded by the team's lack of a first-round tight end since Riley Odoms grew old. The incumbent, Ron Egloff, is suited for blocking but not receiving in the modern passing scheme. Jim Wright comes off the injured list, but he offers little more in speed and quickness. The Broncos also traded with San Francisco for backup Eason Ramson.

The receiving hope is Sampson, who aver-

aged 20 yards on his ten catches—he didn't play much at all until the final few games—and scored three touchdowns. He flies. The Broncos' long-time top receiver, Steve Watson, was a strong ally of DeBerg's, outspoken in fact, and he is flirting with the USFL. Still, he caught 59 passes for an average gain of 19.2 yards and scored five touchdowns.

Sammy Winder carried the ball 115 times more than any other Denver back and gained three times as much yardage, yet no one mistakes him for Curt Warner or Eric Dickerson. The Broncos have to get more production out of Gerald Willhite. He averaged 4.4 yards but carried the ball only 43 times in his second pro season. Otherwise, the Broncos employ their usual platoon of backs, which includes Dave Preston, a good pass catcher, Nathan Poole, Rick Parros, and possibly Rob Lytle, who was hurt last year.

With a quarterback of Elway's potential, the offense should embrace a variety of sets and multiple-receiver formations. There is some doubt whether the Broncos have the material for this kind of attack. Rick Upchurch, who averaged 16 yards on 40 catches before he was injured, is 32 now, and he finally retired. Only Zach Thomas, who caught a dozen passes as a rookie, has any experience beyond the first two receivers.

With Elway or without him, there are a lot of people who don't think Denver is a very good team, despite the playoff berth. This is a team with far too many holes. One of the biggest is at inside linebacker, where Randy Gradishar, the best defensive player in the history of a franchise which has specialized in great defensive players, retired. He was a Pro Bowl star to the end, and Reeves couldn't talk him into forestalling the retirement.

Gradishar's retirement is not the only defensive problem. It wasn't many seasons ago that the Broncos had three of the best linebackers in the NFL: Gradishar, Bob Swenson, and Tom Jackson. The only one who still answers that description is Jackson, and age has caused some decline in his play. Swenson spent most of last season on the injured list. In fact, he really hasn't done much playing in the last three years due to a long contract holdout and various injuries. Unless Swenson comes back to challenge Jim Ryan, the starting four could be Ryan and Jackson on the outside, with Steve Woodward and either Ken Woodward or Rick Dennison inside. Those names don't strike fear into many defenses, as the old Bronco linebacking lineup used to.

In the front line, one of the keys to Denver's defensive success has been the ability to keep a fresh nose tackle in the game to pound the opposing center. It was either Rubin Carter or Don Latimer. But Latimer jumped to Jacksonville of the USFL. The pass rush, long a Denver staple, recorded only 38 sacks last season. It's a reflection of how the style has changed to see that safety Dennis Smith shared the team lead in sacks, with five. Neither end, Barney Chavous or Rulon Jones, had a particularly good season.

There is more strength in the secondary. Louis Wright is still an all-pro-caliber cornerback and Smith, the strong safety, is about to take his place among the top-shelf defensive backs in pro football. Corner Mike Harden and free safety Steve Foley are reliable veterans. There isn't much depth.

The Broncos owed their No. 1 draft choice



Receivers Rick Upchurch and Ron Egloff (#85), running back Sammy Winder (#23), and receiver Steve Watson of the Denver Broncos

to the Colts as final payment for Elway. They used their remaining high picks to better the defense. Mississippi end Andre Townsend was the primary choice, followed by Florida safety Tony Lilly, Arizona corner Randy Robbins (who can play man-to-man) and Utah State linebacker Aaron Smith.

Field-goal kicker Rick Karlis was an impressive 21 for 25, but even more noteworthy was his distance kicking. He missed only one of eight kicks from the 40 or beyond.

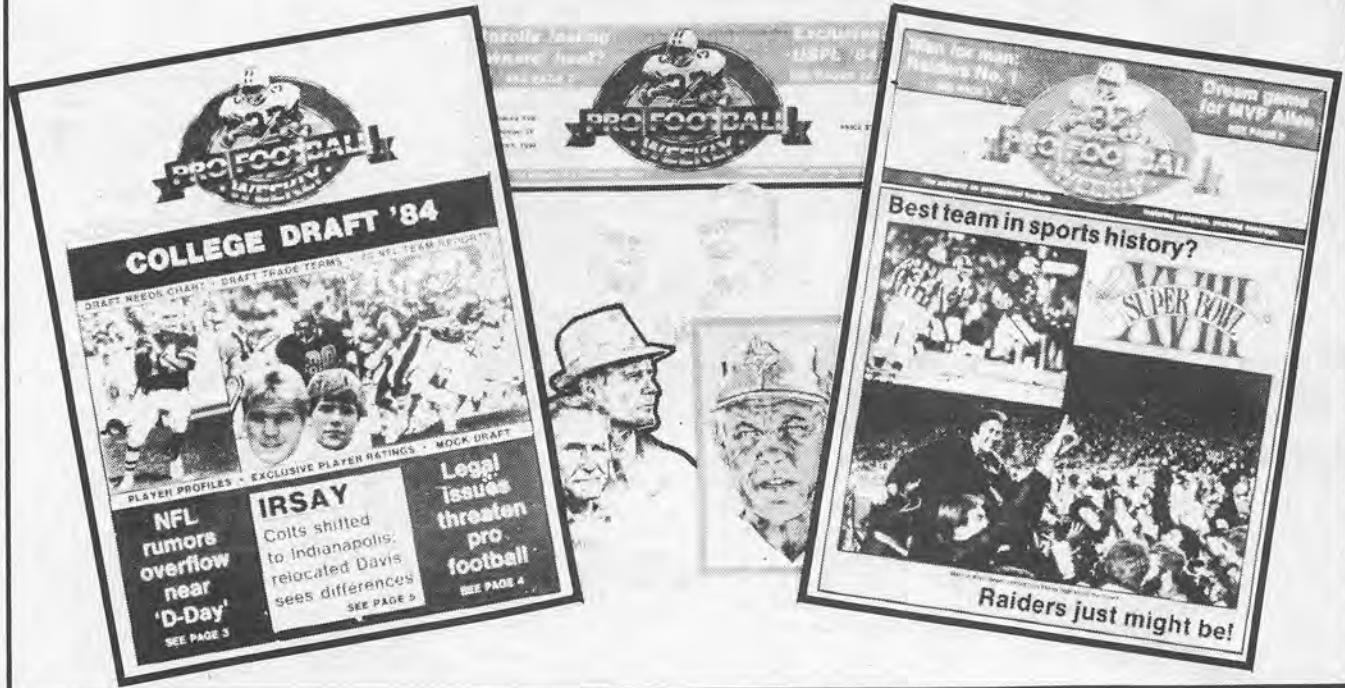
BRONCOS VETERAN ROSTER

| name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|-------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 74 Baker, Jerry | NT | 6-2 | 297 | 2 | 24 | Tulane |
| 86 Barnett, Dean | TE | 6-2 | 225 | 2 | 27 | Neu-Las Vegas |
| 54 Bishop, Keith | OL | 6-3 | 280 | 4 | 27 | Baylor |
| 11 Blinka, Stan | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 6 | 27 | Sam Houston St. |
| 65 Bowyer, Walt | DE | 6-4 | 245 | 2 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 12 Brunner, Scott | QB | 6-5 | 200 | 5 | 27 | Delaware |
| 64 Bryan, Bill | C | 6-2 | 258 | 7 | 29 | Duke |
| 58 Busick, Steve | LB | 6-4 | 247 | 4 | 26 | Southern Cal |
| 66 Carter, Rubin | NT | 6-0 | 256 | 10 | 32 | Miami |
| 79 Chavous, Barney | DE | 6-3 | 258 | 12 | 33 | S.C. St. |
| 59 Comeaux, Darren | LB | 6-1 | 227 | 3 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 63 Cooper, Mark | T | 6-5 | 267 | 2 | 24 | Miami |
| 55 Dennison, Rick | LB | 6-2 | 215 | 3 | 26 | Colorado St. |
| 21 Dupree, Myron | CB | 5-11 | 180 | 2 | 23 | N.C. Central |
| 85 Egloff, Ron | TE | 6-5 | 227 | 8 | 29 | Wisconsin |
| 7 Elway, John | QB | 6-4 | 202 | 2 | 24 | Stanford |
| 43 Foley, Steve | S | 6-2 | 190 | 8 | 31 | Tulane |
| 31 Harden, Mike | S | 6-1 | 192 | 5 | 26 | Michigan |
| 73 Hollingsworth, Shawn | T | 6-2 | 260 | 2 | 23 | Angelo St. |
| 60 Howard, Paul | G | 6-3 | 260 | 11 | 34 | Brigham Young |
| 28 Jackson, Roger | S | 6-0 | 186 | 3 | 25 | Beth-Cookman |
| 57 Jackson, Tom | LB | 5-11 | 220 | 12 | 33 | Louisville |
| 75 Jones, Rulon | DE | 6-6 | 260 | 5 | 26 | Utah St. |
| 3 Karlis, Rich | K | 6-0 | 180 | 3 | 25 | Cincinnati |
| 8 Kubiaik, Gary | QB | 6-0 | 192 | 2 | 23 | Texas A&M |
| 76 Lanier, Ken | T | 6-3 | 269 | 4 | 25 | Florida St. |
| Logan, Dave | WR | 6-4 | 216 | 9 | 30 | Colorado |
| 41 Lyle, Rob | RB | 5-11 | 195 | 8 | 30 | Michigan |
| 66 Manor, Brison | DE | 6-4 | 235 | 8 | 32 | Arkansas |
| 77 Mecklenburg, Karl | LB | 6-3 | 250 | 2 | 24 | Minnesota |
| 29 Myers, Wilbur | S | 5-11 | 195 | 2 | 23 | Delta St. |
| 39 Myles, Jesse | RB | 5-10 | 210 | 2 | 24 | LSU |
| 24 Parros, Rick | RB | 5-11 | 200 | 4 | 26 | Utah St. |
| 34 Poole, Nathan | WR | 5-9 | 212 | 5 | 28 | Louisville |
| 46 Preston, Dave | RB | 5-11 | 195 | 7 | 29 | Bowling Green |
| 11 Prestridge, Luke | P | 6-4 | 235 | 6 | 28 | Baylor |
| 50 Ryan, Eason | TE | 6-2 | 234 | 6 | 28 | Washington St. |
| 50 Ryan, Jim | LB | 6-1 | 215 | 6 | 27 | William & Mary |
| 84 Sampson, Clinton | WR | 5-11 | 183 | 2 | 23 | San Diego St. |
| 82 Sawyer, John | TE | 6-2 | 230 | 9 | 31 | Southern Miss |
| 49 Smith, Dennis | S | 6-3 | 200 | 4 | 25 | Southern Cal |
| 78 Stachowski, Rich | DL | 6-4 | 245 | 2 | 23 | California |
| 70 Studdard, Dave | T | 6-4 | 260 | 6 | 29 | Texas |
| 51 Swenson, Bob | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 8 | 31 | California |
| 82 Thomas, Zack | WR | 6-0 | 182 | 2 | 24 | S.C. St. |
| 67 Uecker, Keith | T | 6-5 | 260 | 3 | 24 | Auburn |
| 80 Upchurch, Rick | WR | 5-10 | 180 | 10 | 32 | Minnesota |
| 81 Watson, Steve | WR | 6-4 | 195 | 6 | 27 | Temple |
| 47 Willhite, Gerald | WR | 5-10 | 200 | 3 | 25 | San Jose St. |
| 45 Wilson, Steve | CB | 5-10 | 195 | 6 | 27 | Howard |
| 23 Winder, Sammy | RB | 5-11 | 203 | 3 | 25 | Southern Miss |
| 52 Woodward, Kenneth | LB | 6-1 | 218 | 3 | 24 | Tuskegee |
| 87 Wright, James | TE | 6-3 | 240 | 5 | 28 | TCU |
| 20 Wright, Louis | CB | 6-2 | 200 | 10 | 31 | San Jose St. |

DRAFTEES

| name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| 2 Townsend, Andre | DE | 6-4 | 265 | Mississippi |
| 3 Lilly, Tony | DB | 6-1 | 204 | Florida |
| 4 Robbins, Randy | DB | 6-2 | 189 | Arizona |
| 6 Smith, Aaron | LB | 6-2 | 212 | Utah St. |
| 7 Kay, Clarence | TE | 6-3 | 225 | Georgia |
| 8 Hood, Wintford | OT | 6-3 | 240 | Georgia |
| 8 Garnett, Scott | DT | 6-3 | 253 | Washington |
| 9 Brewer, Chris | RB | 6-2 | 220 | Arizona |
| 10 Michio, Bobby | TE | 6-4 | 225 | Texas |
| 11 Lang, Gene | RB | 6-0 | 198 | LSU |
| 12 Jarmin, Murray | WR | 6-0 | 190 | Clemson |

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KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

The Kansas City Chiefs are a team of contradictions. For evidence, inspect three of their last four games of the 1983 season. They scored 48, 38, and 48 points. They lost two of those games. For the previous few seasons, the passing game was something the Chiefs used out of desperation. In 1983, the Chiefs finished dead last in ground gaining among the 28 NFL teams.

One of the most startling of their contradictions came after they drafted Todd Blackledge of Penn State on the first round as their quarterback of the future. Unheralded Bill Kenney then became a Pro Bowl quarterback. Kenney, who had thrown only 21 touchdown passes in his three-year career up to last year,

-fired 24 TD passes in 1983. His 4,348 yards was the fourth-highest figure in NFL history. He had seven games in which he passed for 300 yards or more, which ties for second-best in league records. Four of his 300-yard games were consecutive, also second-best in the history of the NFL. Not surprisingly, Kenney was voted the Chiefs' most valuable player.

The Chiefs needed some good quarterbacking, because the bottom fell out of their former offense when star running back Joe Delaney died in a tragic drowning last summer. Consequently, the Chiefs averaged a spongy 3.2 yards on their 387 running plays. The leading ground gainer was Billy Jackson, with just 499 yards. Jackson is, basically, a short-yardage pounder. His running mate was the much-traveled Theotis Brown, who had 467 yards and a 3.8-yard average. The Chiefs traded for Jewel Thomas of the Los Angeles Rams, giving up starting cornerback Eric Harris, but the deal was a dud. Thomas averaged only 2.6 yards on his 44 carries.

Kenney wasn't the only offensive player to

CHIEFS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Lowery, 116 points on 24 field goals and 44 extra points...2nd
RUSHING—B. Jackson, 152 carries for 499 yards, 3.3 avg., 2 TDs...22nd
PASSING—Kenney, 346 of 603 attempts for 4,348 yards and 24 TDs...7th
RECEIVING—Carson, 80 receptions for 1,351 yards, 16.9 avg., 7 TDs...5th
INTERCEPTIONS—Cherry, 7 for 100 yards, 14.3 avg...4th
PUNTING—Arnold, 93 punts, 39.9 avg., longest 64 yards...10th
PUNT RETURNS—J.T. Smith, 26 for 210 yards, 8.1 avg...9th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Hancock, 29 for 515 yards, 17.8 avg...20th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 4 NEW ORLEANS(N)
10 At St. Louis (N)
18 CLEVELAND (N)
24 At New England (N)tentative

1984 SCHEDULE

September 2 At Pittsburgh
9 At Cincinnati 20-15
16 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 20-28
23 At Denver 24-27
30 CLEVELAND —
October 7 NEW YORK JETS —
14 SAN DIEGO 14-17
21 At New York Jets —
28 TAMPA BAY —
November 4 At Seattle (ovt) 48-51
11 HOUSTON (ovt) 13-10
18 At Los Angeles Raiders 20-21
25 At New York Giants 38-17
December 2 DENVER 48-17
9 SEATTLE 17-13
16 At San Diego 38-41

1983 SCORES



develop under new coach John Mackovic. Carlos Carson more than doubled his statistics for the previous three seasons, catching 80 passes for 1,351 yards. He scored seven times and was a starter in the Pro Bowl. The next item on Mackovic's developmental list is Anthony Hancock, the team's No. 1 draft choice in 1982. Last year he caught 37 passes for a 15.8-yard average, but potentially he is capable of far more. Hancock's trouble is hanging on to the ball. Henry Marshall is the incumbent starter across from Carson. He caught 50 passes for a 15.8-yard average and a half dozen touchdowns before breaking his arm early in Game 14. Also on Mackovic's list is tight end Willie Scott, the No. 1 draftee in 1981. Scott finally won a starting job last year, catching 29 passes for a mere 8.5-yard aver-

CHIEFS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| 6 | Arnold, Jim | P | 6-2 | 212 | 2 | 23 | Vanderbilt |
| 77 | Baldinger, Rich | T | 6-4 | 280 | 2 | 25 | Wake Forest |
| 85 | Beckman, Ed | TE | 6-4 | 239 | 8 | 29 | Florida St. |
| 99 | Bell, Mike | DE | 6-4 | 250 | 5 | 29 | Colorado St. |
| 14 | Blackledge, Todd | QB | 6-3 | 225 | 2 | 23 | Penn St. |
| 57 | Blanton, Jerry | LB | 6-1 | 236 | 6 | 28 | Kentucky |
| 27 | Brown, Theotis | RB | 6-3 | 225 | 6 | 27 | UCLA |
| 66 | Budde, Brad | G | 6-4 | 260 | 5 | 26 | Southern Cal |
| 34 | Burruss, Lloyd | S | 6-0 | 202 | 4 | 27 | Maryland |
| 88 | Carson, Carlos | WR | 5-11 | 174 | 5 | 26 | LSU |
| 20 | Cherry, Deron | S | 5-11 | 190 | 4 | 25 | Rutgers |
| 65 | Condon, Tom | G | 6-3 | 275 | 11 | 32 | Boston College |
| 50 | Daniels, Calvin | LB | 6-3 | 236 | 3 | 26 | North Carolina |
| 75 | Gardner, Ellis | OL | 6-4 | 263 | 2 | 23 | Georgia Tech |
| 82 | Hancock, Anthony | WR | 6-0 | 187 | 3 | 24 | Tennessee |
| 56 | Haynes, Louis | LB | 6-0 | 227 | 3 | 24 | N. Texas St. |
| 60 | Herkenhoff, Matt | T | 6-4 | 272 | 9 | 33 | Minnesota |
| 52 | Howard, Thomas | LB | 6-2 | 215 | 8 | 30 | Texas Tech |
| 43 | Jackson, Billy | RB | 5-10 | 215 | 4 | 25 | Alabama |
| 51 | Jackson, Charles | LB | 6-3 | 222 | 7 | 29 | Washington |
| 22 | Jakes, Van | CB | 5-11 | 185 | 2 | 23 | Kent St. |
| 9 | Kenney, Bill | QB | 6-4 | 211 | 6 | 29 | N. Colorado |
| 64 | Kirchner, Mark | OL | 6-3 | 261 | 2 | 25 | Baylor |
| 55 | Klug, Dave | LB | 6-4 | 230 | 3 | 26 | Concordia |
| 91 | Kremer, Ken | NT | 6-4 | 252 | 6 | 27 | Ball St. |
| 29 | Lewis, Albert | CB | 6-2 | 190 | 2 | 24 | Grambling |
| 71 | Lindstrom, Dave | DE | 6-6 | 255 | 7 | 30 | Boston U. |
| 62 | Lingner, Adam | OL | 6-4 | 240 | 2 | 24 | Illinois |
| 8 | Lowery, Nick | K | 6-4 | 189 | 5 | 28 | Dartmouth |
| 72 | Lutz, Dave | T | 6-5 | 280 | 2 | 25 | Georgia Tech |
| 74 | Mangiero, Dino | NT | 6-2 | 264 | 5 | 26 | Rutgers |
| 89 | Marshall, Henry | WR | 6-2 | 220 | 9 | 30 | Missouri |
| 48 | McAlister, Ken | LB | 6-5 | 220 | 3 | 24 | San Francisco |
| 83 | Paige, Stephona | WR | 6-1 | 180 | 2 | 23 | Fresno St. |
| 58 | Potter, Steve | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 4 | 27 | Virginia |
| 79 | Prater, Dean | DE | 6-5 | 245 | 2 | 26 | Oklahoma St. |
| 42 | Ricks, Lawrence | RB | 5-9 | 194 | 2 | 23 | Michigan |
| 38 | Roquemore, Durwood | S | 6-1 | 180 | 3 | 24 | Texas A&I |
| 70 | Rourke, Jim | OL | 6-5 | 263 | 5 | 27 | Boston College |
| 53 | Rush, Bob | C | 6-5 | 264 | 7 | 29 | Memphis St. |
| 81 | Scott, Willie | TE | 6-4 | 245 | 4 | 25 | South Carolina |
| 86 | Smith, J.T. | WR | 6-2 | 185 | 7 | 29 | N. Texas St. |
| 23 | Smith, Lucious | CB | 5-10 | 190 | 5 | 27 | Cal-Fullerton |
| 59 | Spani, Gary | LB | 6-2 | 228 | 7 | 28 | Kansas St. |
| 67 | Still, Art | DE | 6-7 | 245 | 7 | 29 | Kentucky |
| 31 | Thomas, Jewel | RB | 5-10 | 228 | 5 | 27 | San Jose St. |
| 35 | Thomas, Ken | RB | 5-9 | 211 | 2 | 24 | San Jose St. |
| 54 | Walker, James | LB | 6-1 | 250 | 2 | 25 | Kansas St. |
| 87 | Wetzel, Ron | TE | 6-5 | 242 | 2 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 92 | Yakavonis, Ray | NT | 6-5 | 250 | 4 | 27 | E. Stroudsburg |
| 61 | Zamberlin, John | LB | 6-2 | 226 | 6 | 28 | Pacific Luth. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|------------------|-----|------|-----|--------------|
| 1 | Maas, Bill | DT | 6-5 | 265 | Pittsburgh |
| 1 | Alt, John | OT | 6-7 | 278 | Iowa |
| 2 | Radicic, Scott | LB | 6-3 | 240 | Penn St. |
| 3 | Heard, Herman | RB | 5-10 | 184 | S. Colorado |
| 4 | Robinson, Mark | DB | 5-11 | 206 | Penn St. |
| 5 | Holle, Eric | DE | 6-5 | 250 | Texas |
| 5 | Paine, Jeff | LB | 6-3 | 224 | Texas A&M |
| 6 | Stevens, Rufus | WR | 6-3 | 182 | Grambling |
| 7 | Ross, Kevin | DB | 5-9 | 180 | Temple |
| 8 | Clark, Randy | DB | 6-0 | 195 | Florida |
| 9 | Auer, Scott | OT | 6-5 | 255 | Michigan St. |
| 9 | Hester, Dave | TE | 6-3 | 240 | Colorado |
| 10 | Wenglikowski, Al | LB | 6-1 | 220 | Pittsburgh |
| 11 | Johnson, Bobby | RB | 6-1 | 191 | San Jose St. |
| 12 | Lang, Mark | LB | 6-2 | 235 | Texas |

age and six touchdowns. The blocking tight end is Ed Beckman.

One thing which should help the running game is the return of star guard Brad Budde, who was hurt last year. There were two line changes in '83. Bob Rush came from San Diego to claim the center job vacated when Jack Rudnay retired. Rookie David Lutz started at right tackle. The other starters were Matt Herkenhoff at right tackle and Bob Simmons and Tom Condon at the guards.

The Chiefs' defensive problems are a mystery. They have two Pro Bowl defensive backs, two defensive ends with as much ability as almost any in the NFL, and experienced linebackers. So why the 367 points?

For starters, neither Mike Bell nor Art Still is playing anywhere near his potential. K.C. totaled only 35 sacks in '83, but Bell and Still should approach that number between them. Bud Carson, the defensive coordinator, wants to pep up the pass rush with more effective blitzing. Beyond the two nose tackles, Dino Mangiero and Ken Kremer, the Chiefs don't have much depth in the line. Charles Jackson is the designated blitzer among the linebackers. He had four sacks and forced five fumbles. Jerry Blanton led the team with 136 tackles from his inside linebacker position. Gary Spani is his inside partner. Thomas Howard, another veteran, is the incumbent left outside linebacker, but he may be pushed by young Calvin Daniels.

One of the football stories of the year occurred in the secondary. When Gary Barbaro,

the Chiefs' safety, and the Kansas City front office reached an impasse in contract negotiations, Barbaro went on a sit-out strike. It could have been devastating for the Chiefs. Barbaro was a three-time all-pro with 39 career interceptions. Into the breach stepped Deron Cherry, whose only experience amounted to a half season as a nickel back and one career interception. Cherry was magnificent. He led the Chiefs with seven interceptions, finished second in tackles, with 110, blocked a field goal, forced two fumbles and recovered two. He also ended up as the starting free safety in the Pro Bowl.

The Chiefs traded their other starting Pro Bowler, cornerback Gary Green, who intercepted six passes. It was Green's third consecutive Pro Bowl, but KC dealt him to the Los Angeles Rams for first- and third-round draft choices. Lucious Smith is the incumbent starter at right corner. Green's successor should be Albert Lewis, last year's No. 2 draft, who could end up in the Green-Cherry class. Lewis intercepted four passes as the extra back and had 23 tackles on special teams, nine more than the next man. Strong safety Lloyd Burruss and nickel back Durwood Roquemore each intercepted four passes as the Chiefs led the AFC in interceptions, with 30.

The Chiefs wanted Michigan State linebacker Carl Banks, but when the Giants took him, they settled for another stud, Pitt's All-America nose tackle Bill Maas. He doesn't have computer speed or quickness, but no one argues with his mean streak or tough-

ness. He may inspire Still and Bell. The Chiefs picked Iowa offensive tackle John Alt with the first-round choice they got from the Rams for Green, then gambled that Penn State linebacker Scott Radecic will rediscover the sort of tempo which he played at as a junior. Joining him from the draft is All-America safety and Nittany Lion teammate Mark Robinson, who lacks speed but will hunt heads.

Jim Arnold averaged 39.9 yards as a rookie punter. Field-goaler Nick Lowery kicked 24 of 30, including 12 for 12 within the 40, although he was a goat in two losses to the Los Angeles Raiders, having one field goal blocked by Ted Hendricks and missing another important 43-yarder in the rematch.

Defensive tackle Bill Maas of K.C.



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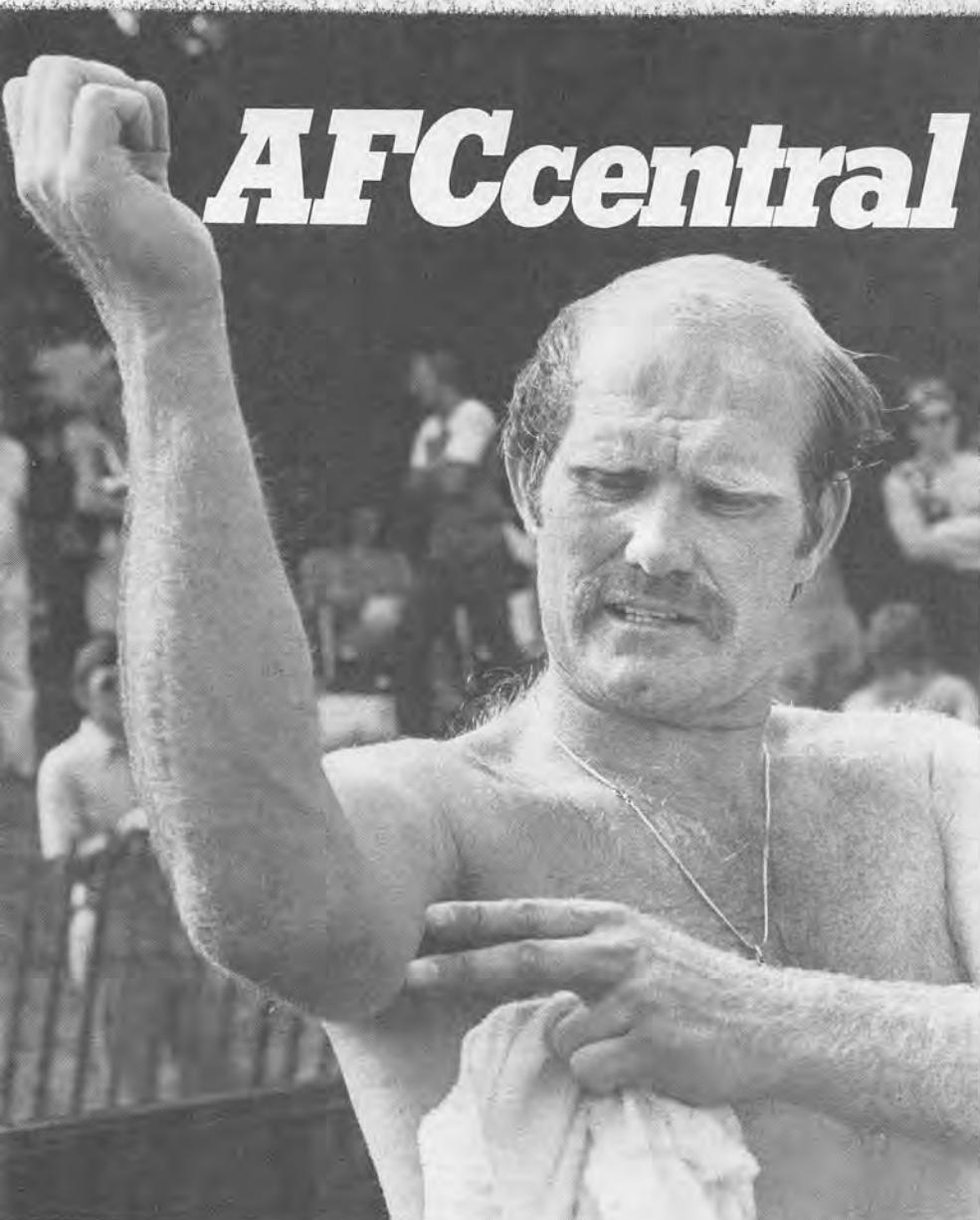
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AFCcentral



PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Were the Steelers unmasked by the Los Angeles Raiders in the AFC playoffs last year, or did they merely run out of gas? Whatever the answer, it's obvious that Pittsburgh is nowhere near as skilled as its 9-2 record two-thirds of the way through last season seemed to indicate. This is a team at the crossroads.

The biggest puzzle is quarterback. It comes down to this. If Terry Bradshaw is healthy enough to give a reasonable impersonation of Terry Bradshaw in his prime, he's the quarterback. If Bradshaw creaks along as he did last year, when he played only one-quarter in the regular season, the Bradshaw era of Pittsburgh football is over. If the Bradshaw era is over, there will be a tentative move toward the David Woodley era. At least coach Chuck Noll hopes so. He traded with Miami for Woodley last winter when Dan Marino, a Pittsburgh neighborhood kid, made David excess. Woodley failed to prove he could defeat good defenses consistently in Miami, even though Don Shula invested enormous patience in him. Whether he can do it in Pittsburgh with lesser offensive help is questionable, to say the least. Don't count out Mark Malone, even though he has done little since the Steelers drafted him in the first round five years ago.

the same draft in which the Dolphins plucked Woodley in round eight. Despite all the ifs, Pittsburgh can't be much worse off at quarterback than it was last year with Cliff Stoudt, who jumped to Birmingham of the USFL.

There is a story similar to Bradshaw's at wide receiver. John Stallworth, one of the all-time Steelers, played only four games last year, none consecutively. Noll can't kid himself about Stallworth if injuries strike early again. Calvin Sweeney, who led the team with 39 catches, is the only Pittsburgh receiver who approaches being a constant. Wayne Capers bears the look of Stallworth one week, the look of a run-of-the-mill player the next. He caught only ten passes, but his 18.5-yard average was the best on the team. The Steelers could get major help from Greg Hawthorne, who has the ability to be both a possession catcher and a deep threat. The problem is keeping him healthy. Bennie Cunningham never has been the tight end the Steelers envisioned when they made him a No. 1 draftee, but as a possession receiver and blocker he's been fairly reliable.

Gary Anderson led the AFC in scoring; Terry Bradshaw (above) threw just eight passes in 1983.

The Steelers used the draft to give Woodley/Bradshaw some improved targets. Louis Lipps, a speedy, much-admired wide receiver from Southern Mississippi, was the first pick. Chris Kolodziewski, a tight end from Wyoming, was the second. Weegie Thompson, a Florida State wide receiver, was third.

Noll isn't kidding himself about Franco Harris. The great running back will have his playing time reduced, possibly drastically, despite his 1,007-yard season. The truth is that Franco was a wonder in the first half of the season (610 yards) but less than ordinary in the second half, when he looked his 34 years. His successor should be Walter Abercrombie, who has been a disappointment up to now. He scored seven touchdowns last year, had the longest run from scrimmage for the team, as well as the longest pass reception. But his 4.0-yard average in 112 carries isn't going to make it for an offense which needs more. Frank Pollard, a willing journeyman, contributed 608 yards and a 4.5-yard average, the highest yardage total for an NFL non-starter.

The USFL plucked three offensive linemen from the Steelers' roster last year. That hurt. Other than all-pro center Mike Webster, this isn't one of the NFL's better units. Larry Brown has had a great career at tackle, but he's 35 and to be effective at all he needs rest. With Ray Pinney gone to the USFL's Michigan Panthers, Tunch Ilkin and Tom Beasley both played, but not very well. John Meyer, switched back and forth from defense to offense, gets another shot as an offensive tackle. Steve Courson has been an underachiever at guard for the last few seasons. Craig Wolley plays solidly. Noll selected East Carolina strong man Terry Long, a guard built like Courson, in the draft.

It was the Pittsburgh defense which carried the team for the first half of '83, scoring seven touchdowns in the first eight games. Noll found safety in numbers last year, since a half dozen linemen were used in the Steelers' 3-4



defense and their four-man, anti-pass front. Gary Dunn was the nose tackle in the 3-4 and a tackle in the four-man line. He's probably the most well-rounded of the linemen. Keith Willis had 14 sacks, a Steeler record, as a pass-rush specialist. Keith Gary, like Willis an end, had 7½. They'll both push for full-time work against Tom Beasley and John Goodman. Edmund Nelson can play either inside or out.

There may be a significant change among the linebackers. Tony Dungy, the new defensive coordinator (Woody Widener jumped to the USFL, where he is head coach of the Oklahoma Outlaws), may switch Robin Cole from outside linebacker to the inside to challenge Loren Toews. One of them will play alongside Jack Lambert, still the team's best but not as dominant as when Pittsburgh was a 4-3 team. Mike Merriweather is in his third season as a starter, and the Steelers expect him to become a special-type player. Just as important as his further development is the healing of Bob Kohrs's knee. When he missed the last seven games, the defense sagged. He moves inside to blitz in passing situations and has the mobility and speed to cover receivers. Bryan Hinkle is another highly regarded young linebacker.

The secondary is in a state of transition. Mel Blount retired and Donnie Shell is on the down side of his brilliant career. Harvey Clayton and Sam Washington, both speedy little guys, will

fight over Blount's old right-corner job. Shell was the leading Steeler interceptor, but he'll share time at strong safety with Ron Johnson. Dwayne Woodruff, at left corner, is now Pittsburgh's most consistent defensive back. Rick Woods is the free safety, although Johnson will play some at the position.

The Steelers' most valuable player was place-kicker Gary Anderson, who kicked 27 field goals in 31 attempts. Punter Craig Colquitt came back from a torn Achilles' tendon to average 41.9 yards on his 80 punts, 20 of which landed within the 20-yard line.

STEELERS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Anderson, 119 points on 27 field goals and 38 extra points...1st
RUSHING—Harris, 279 carries for 1,007 yards, 3.6 avg., 5 TDs...8th
PASSING—Stoudt, 197 of 381 attempts for 2,553 yards and 12 TDs...15th
RECEIVING—Sweeney, 39 receptions for 577 yards, 14.8 avg., 5 TDs...28th
INTERCEPTIONS—Woods, 5 for 53 yards, 10.6 avg...17th
PUNTING—Colquitt, 80 punts, 41.9 avg., longest 58 yards...6th
PUNT RETURNS—Skansi, 43 for 363 yards, 8.4 avg...8th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Odom, 39 for 756 yards, 19.4 avg...16th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|------------------------|
| August | 4 | At Cleveland (N) |
| | 11 | PHILADELPHIA (N) |
| | 16 | At Dallas (N) |
| | 25 | At New York Giants (N) |

| 1984 SCHEDULE | | | 1983 SCORES | | |
|---------------|----|------------------------|-------------|---|---|
| September | 2 | KANSAS CITY | — | — | — |
| | 6 | At New York Jets (N) | 34-7 | | |
| | 16 | LOS ANGELES RAMS | — | | |
| | 23 | At Cleveland | 17-30 | | |
| October | 1 | CINCINNATI (N) | 10-23 | | |
| | 7 | MIAMI | — | | |
| | 14 | At San Francisco | — | | |
| | 21 | At Indianapolis | 24-13 | | |
| | 28 | ATLANTA | — | | |
| November | 4 | HOUSTON | 17-10 | | |
| | 11 | At Cincinnati | 24-14 | | |
| | 19 | At New Orleans (N) | — | | |
| | 25 | SAN DIEGO | 26-3 | | |
| December | 2 | At Houston | 40-28 | | |
| | 9 | CLEVELAND | 44-17 | | |
| | 16 | At Los Angeles Raiders | — | | |



STEELERS VETERAN ROSTER

| NFL | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|----------------|
| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | college |
| 34 | Abercrombie, Walter | RB | 5-11 | 210 | 3 | Baylor |
| 1 | Anderson, Gary | K | 5-11 | 156 | 3 | Syracuse |
| 65 | Beasley, Tom | DL | 6-5 | 248 | 7 | Virginia Tech |
| 25 | Best, Grey | S | 5-10 | 185 | 2 | Kansas St. |
| 54 | Bingham, Craig | LB | 6-2 | 211 | 3 | Syracuse |
| 71 | Bouris, Emil | OL | 6-1 | 261 | 3 | Pittsburgh |
| 12 | Bradshaw, Terry | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 14 | La. Tech |
| 79 | Brown, Larry | T | 6-4 | 270 | 14 | Kansas |
| 80 | Capers, Wayne | WR | 6-2 | 193 | 2 | Kansas |
| 33 | Clayton, Harvey | CB | 5-9 | 170 | 2 | Florida St. |
| 56 | Cole, Robin | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 8 | New Mexico |
| 5 | Colquitt, Craig | P | 6-1 | 182 | 6 | Tennessee |
| 77 | Courson, Steve | G | 6-1 | 270 | 7 | South Carolina |
| 89 | Cunningham, Bennie | TE | 6-5 | 260 | 9 | Clemson |
| 45 | Davis, Russell | RB | 6-1 | 224 | 5 | Michigan |
| 55 | Donnalley, Rick | OL | 6-2 | 255 | 3 | North Carolina |
| 88 | Dunaway, Craig | TE | 6-2 | 233 | 2 | Michigan |
| 67 | Dunn, Gary | NT | 6-3 | 260 | 8 | Miami |
| 20 | French, Ernest | S | 5-11 | 195 | 2 | Alabama A&M |
| 86 | Garrity, Gregg | WR | 5-10 | 171 | 2 | Penn St. |
| 92 | Gary, Keith | DE | 6-3 | 255 | 2 | Oklahoma |
| 95 | Goodman, John | DE | 6-6 | 250 | 4 | Oklahoma |
| 32 | Harris, Franco | RB | 6-2 | 225 | 13 | Penn St. |
| 43 | Harris, Tim | RB | 5-9 | 206 | 2 | Washington St. |
| 27 | Hawthorne, Greg | WR | 6-2 | 225 | 6 | Baylor |
| 53 | Hinkle, Bryan | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 3 | Oregon |
| 62 | Ilkin, Tunch | T | 6-3 | 255 | 5 | Indiana St. |
| 29 | Johnson, Ron | S | 5-10 | 200 | 7 | E. Michigan |
| 90 | Kohrs, Bob | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 4 | Arizona St. |
| 58 | Lambert, Jack | LB | 6-4 | 220 | 11 | Kent State |
| 50 | Little, David | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 4 | Florida |
| 16 | Malone, Mark | QB | 6-4 | 223 | 5 | Arizona St. |
| 57 | Merriweather, Mike | LB | 6-2 | 215 | 3 | Pacific |
| 64 | Nelson, Edmund | DL | 6-3 | 270 | 3 | Auburn |
| 44 | Odom, Henry | RB | 5-10 | 200 | 2 | S.C. St. |
| 66 | Petersen, Ted | T | 6-5 | 245 | 7 | E. Illinois |
| 30 | Pollard, Frank | RB | 5-10 | 218 | 5 | Baylor |
| 87 | Rodgers, John | TE | 6-2 | 220 | 3 | La. Tech |
| 31 | Shell, Donnie | S | 5-11 | 190 | 11 | S.C. St. |
| 81 | Skansi, Paul | WR | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | Washington |
| 82 | Stallworth, John | WR | 6-2 | 191 | 11 | Alabama A&M |
| 85 | Sweeney, Calvin | WR | 6-2 | 190 | 5 | Southern Cal. |
| 51 | Toews, Loren | LB | 6-3 | 222 | 12 | California |
| 41 | Washington, Sam | CB | 5-8 | 180 | 3 | Miss Valley |
| 52 | Webster, Mike | C | 6-1 | 250 | 11 | Wisconsin |
| 93 | Willis, Keith | DE | 6-1 | 251 | 3 | Northwestern |
| 61 | Wingle, Blake | G | 6-2 | 267 | 2 | UCLA |
| 73 | Wolffley, Craig | G | 6-1 | 265 | 5 | Syracuse |
| 16 | Woodley, David | QB | 6-2 | 198 | 5 | LSU |
| 49 | Woodruff, Dwayne | CB | 5-11 | 198 | 6 | Louisville |
| 22 | Woods, Rick | S | 6-0 | 196 | 3 | Boise St. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-----------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Lipps, Louis | WR | 5-10 | 190 | S. Mississippi |
| 2 | Kolodziejewski, Chris | TE | 6-3 | 231 | Wyoming |
| 4 | Thompson, Weegie | WR | 6-6 | 210 | Florida St. |
| 4 | Long, Terry | OG | 5-11 | 272 | East Carolina |
| 5 | Hughes, Van | DT | 6-3 | 282 | SW Texas St. |
| 6 | Brown, Chris | DB | 6-0 | 195 | Notre Dame |
| 7 | Campbell, Scott | QB | 5-11 | 201 | Purdue |
| 8 | Rasmussen, Randy | C | 6-2 | 253 | Minnesota |
| 9 | Erenberg, Rich | RB | 5-10 | 200 | Colgate |
| 10 | McJunkin, Kirk | OT | 6-3 | 250 | Texas |
| 11 | Veals, Elton | RB | 5-11 | 223 | Tulane |
| 12 | Gillespie, Fernandars | RB | 5-10 | 178 | Wm. Jewell |

Franco Harris needs 363 yards to break Jim Brown's rushing record. Jack Lambert (#58) of the Steelers

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CINCINNATI BENGALS

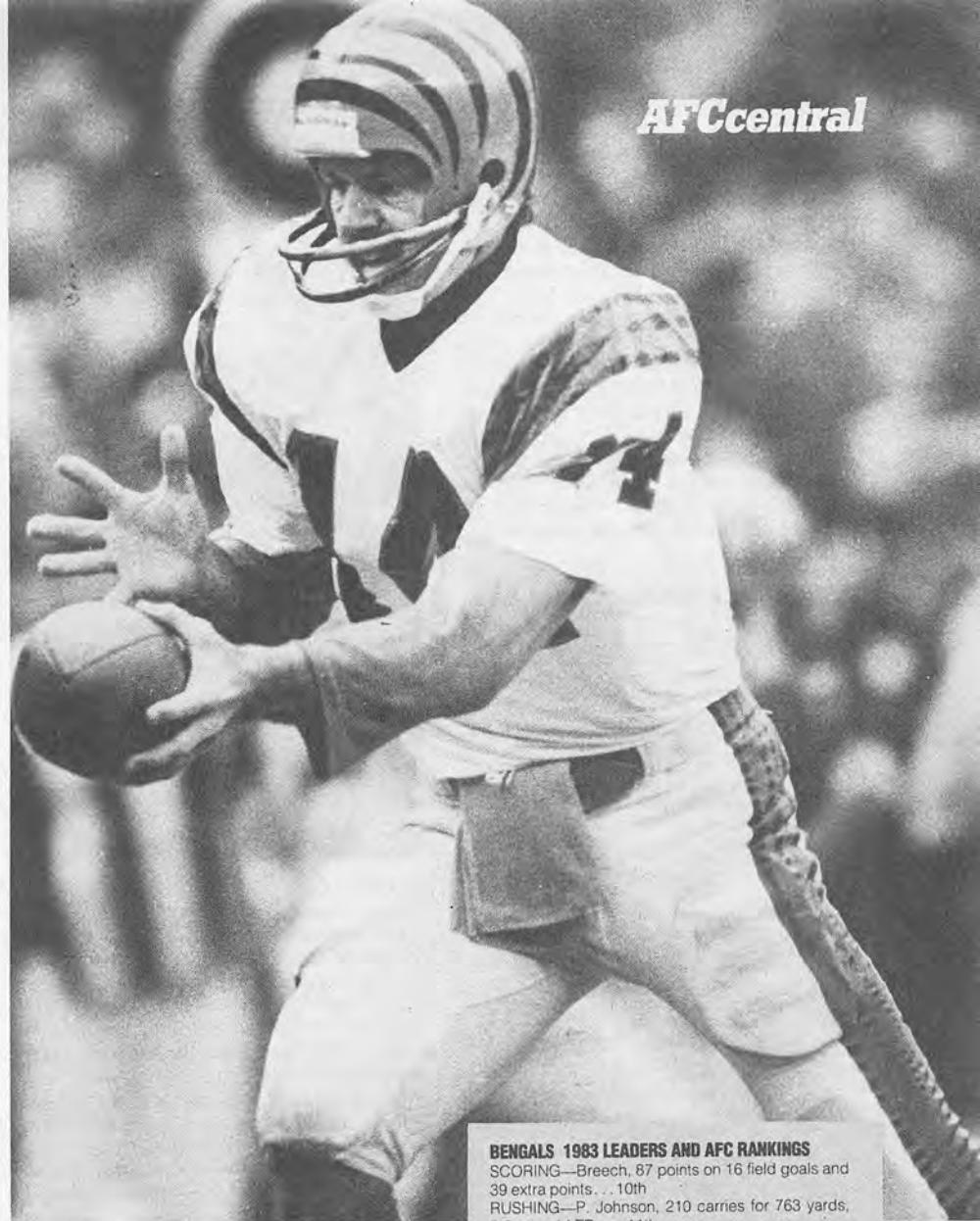
The Cincinnati Bengals' uncertain future might have been summarized by the comments of Forrest Gregg after the Minnesota Vikings had beaten his team, 20-14, in the final game of last season. "I'm so happy this season is over," said Gregg. "I have never been happier a season was over so early." Not long afterward, Forrest Gregg was the coach of the Green Bay Packers.

The happiest Bengals on that team are somewhere else now, or on their way somewhere else. Linebackers Jim LeClair and Tom Dinkel now work in the USFL. So does Dan Ross, one of the best tight ends in football. So does guard Dave Lapham. So does Lindy Infante, the creative offensive coordinator. Wide receiver Cris Collinsworth is on his way. Most important, Gregg has been sprung from the tense Cincinnati atmosphere. He was the buffer between the players and the prickly Cincinnati front office. "I let Forrest do my worrying for me," said LeClair.

In Gregg's place is Sam Wyche, who resigned as head coach of the University of Indiana to take the job. Wyche is an intelligent, ambitious, and low-key coach who was a backup quarterback for the Bengals and served as quarterback coach for the San Francisco 49ers when they won the Super Bowl. It was at San Francisco, under Bill Walsh, that Wyche proved he had a mind of his own and was not reluctant to speak it. Independent-minded coaches and the Paul Brown organization are not seen as compatible. Gregg privately chaffed at receiving Brown's suggestions. Wyche will have to walk a very thin line to retain his independence and still come off as an organization man.



The new coach's biggest asset may be his old relationship with Ken Anderson, who begins his fourteenth season as a Bengal at the age of 35. Considering Anderson's statistics of last season, Wyche doesn't have much of an asset: a dozen touchdown passes and 2,329 yards. But the fact is that Anderson was a quarterback under siege early in the year,



when the offense was in tatters following the departure of Infante. Anderson suffered a neck injury in the second game, comparable to whiplash in a car accident, and kept getting it hurt all season long. His backup, which he needed for about a third of the season, is journeyman Turk Schonert, who threw 156 passes but only two for touchdowns.

It was at the time of Pete Johnson's suspension as a result of a drug scandal that Anderson was hurt. The opposition defense was teeing off with the knowledge that the Bengals had a sub-par running game then. Johnson, another discontented Bengal, was traded in late May to the San Diego Chargers for running back James Brooks, who gained 516 yards. But he, too, was unhappy, so perhaps the deal will benefit all parties. Once Johnson got into gear, the Bengals finished a respectable 6-3. Johnson demonstrated that he wasn't running laps or working in the weight room during his suspension, but his corpulent body still got across the goal line 14 times.

The Bengal offense starts with quarterback Ken Anderson and center Dave Rimington (#64).

BENGALS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Breech, 87 points on 16 field goals and 39 extra points...10th
RUSHING—P. Johnson, 210 carries for 763 yards, 3.6 avg., 14 TDs...11th
PASSING—Anderson, 198 of 297 attempts for 2,333 yards and 12 TDs...4th
RECEIVING—Collinsworth, 66 receptions for 1,130 yards, 17.1 avg., 5 TDs...8th
INTERCEPTIONS—Riley, 8 for 89 yards, 11.1 avg., 2 TDs...1st
PUNTING—McInally, 67 punts, 41.9 avg., longest 60 yards...7th
PUNT RETURNS—Martin, 23 for 227 yards, 9.9 avg...6th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Simmons, 14 for 317 yards, 22.6 avg...unranked

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 4 At New York Jets (N)
11 At Tampa Bay (N)
18 At Chicago (N)
24 DETROIT (N)

| 1984 SCHEDULE | | 1983 SCORES |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| September | 2 At Denver | 17-24 |
| | 9 KANSAS CITY | 15-20 |
| | 16 At New York Jets | — |
| | 23 LOS ANGELES RAMS | — |
| October | 1 At Pittsburgh (N) | 23-10 |
| | 7 HOUSTON | 38-10 |
| | 14 At New England | — |
| | 21 CLEVELAND | 28-21 |
| | 28 At Houston | 55-14 |
| November | 4 At San Francisco | — |
| | 11 PITTSBURGH | 14-24 |
| | 18 SEATTLE | — |
| | 25 ATLANTA | — |
| December | 2 At Cleveland | 7-17 |
| | 9 At New Orleans | — |
| | 16 BUFFALO | 6-10 |

The pass protection is iffy. There should be one improvement and one decline in the offensive line. The improvement will be due to a year's experience for center Dave Rimington, the Nebraska strong boy who was mystified by the intricacies of pass blocking for most of the season. The decline is due to the departure of the veteran Lapham at left guard. The probable replacement is Mike Obrovac. There are first-rate players at the three other positions. Anthony Munoz, the left tackle, made the Pro Bowl again. Right tackle Mike Wilson and right guard Max Montoya are fine professionals. Dan Ross's blocking from tight end will be missed. The inexperienced Rodney Holman and M.L. Harris will vie for Ross's job.

Collinsworth was a lame duck even last year, following his contract signing with the Tampa Bay Bandits of the USFL. Regardless,

BENGALS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | NFL | exp | age | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|---------|
| 40 | Alexander, Charles | RB | 6-1 | 226 | 6 | 27 | LSU | |
| 14 | Anderson, Ken | QB | 6-2 | 212 | 14 | 35 | Augustana (IL) | |
| 61 | Boayrsky, Jerry | NT | 6-3 | 292 | 4 | 25 | Pittsburgh | |
| 10 | Brech, Jim | K | 5-6 | 161 | 6 | 28 | California | |
| 34 | Breedan, Louis | CB | 5-11 | 185 | 7 | 31 | N. C. Central | |
| 79 | Browner, Ross | DE | 6-3 | 261 | 7 | 30 | Notre Dame | |
| 67 | Burley, Gary | DE | 6-3 | 282 | 9 | 32 | Pittsburgh | |
| 50 | Cameron, Glenn | LB | 6-2 | 228 | 10 | 31 | Florida | |
| 11 | Christensen, Jeff | QB | 6-3 | 202 | 2 | 24 | E. Illinois | |
| 76 | Collins, Glen | DE | 6-6 | 265 | 3 | 25 | Miss. St. | |
| 80 | Collinsworth, Cris | WR | 6-5 | 192 | 4 | 25 | Florida | |
| 85 | Curtis, Isaac | WR | 6-1 | 192 | 12 | 34 | San Diego St. | |
| 73 | Edwards, Eddie | DE | 6-5 | 256 | 8 | 30 | Miami | |
| 49 | Frazier, Guy | LB | 6-2 | 221 | 4 | 25 | Wyoming | |
| 48 | Gibler, Andy | TE | 6-4 | 234 | 2 | 24 | Missouri | |
| 22 | Griffin, James | S | 6-2 | 197 | 2 | 23 | Middle Tenn. | |
| 44 | Griffin, Ray | CB | 5-10 | 186 | 7 | 28 | Ohio State | |
| 66 | Hannula, Jim | T | 6-6 | 264 | 2 | 25 | N. Illinois | |
| 83 | Harris, M.L. | TE | 6-5 | 238 | 5 | 30 | Kansas St. | |
| 27 | Hicks, Bryan | S | 6-0 | 192 | 4 | 27 | McNeese St. | |
| 82 | Holman, Rodney | DE | 6-3 | 232 | 3 | 24 | Tulane | |
| 20 | Horton, Ray | CB | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | 24 | Washington | |
| 37 | Jackson, Robert | S | 5-10 | 186 | 3 | 26 | Cent. Michigan | |
| 46 | Johnson, Pete | RB | 6-0 | 272 | 8 | 30 | Ohio State | |
| 26 | Kemp, Bobby | S | 6-0 | 191 | 4 | 25 | Cal-Fullerton | |
| 28 | Kinnebrew, Larry | RB | 6-1 | 252 | 2 | 25 | Tennessee St. | |
| 86 | Kreider, Steve | WR | 6-3 | 192 | 6 | 26 | Lehigh | |
| 69 | Krumrie, Tim | NT | 6-2 | 262 | 2 | 24 | Wisconsin | |
| 47 | Maidlow, Steve | LB | 6-2 | 234 | 2 | 24 | Michigan St. | |
| 88 | Martin, Mike | WR | 5-10 | 186 | 2 | 24 | Illinois | |
| 87 | McInally, Pat | P | 6-6 | 212 | 9 | 31 | Harvard | |
| 65 | Montoya, Max | G | 6-5 | 275 | 6 | 28 | UCLA | |
| 60 | Moore, Blake | C | 6-5 | 267 | 5 | 26 | Woolster | |
| 78 | Munoz, Anthony | T | 6-6 | 278 | 5 | 26 | Southern Cal | |
| 68 | Obrovac, Mike | T | 6-6 | 275 | 4 | 29 | Bowling Green | |
| 51 | Razzano, Rick | LB | 5-11 | 227 | 5 | 25 | Virginia Tech | |
| 64 | Rimington, Dave | C | 6-3 | 288 | 2 | 22 | Nebraska | |
| 15 | Schonert, Turk | QB | 6-1 | 190 | 5 | 27 | Stanford | |
| 59 | Schuh, Jeff | LB | 6-2 | 228 | 4 | 26 | Minnesota | |
| 25 | Simmons, John | DB | 5-11 | 192 | 4 | 26 | SMU | |
| 56 | Simpkins, Ron | LB | 6-1 | 235 | 4 | 26 | Michigan | |
| 23 | Tate, Rodney | RB | 5-11 | 190 | 3 | 25 | Texas | |
| 35 | Turner, Jim | CB | 6-0 | 187 | 2 | 25 | UCLA | |
| 81 | Verser, David | WR | 6-1 | 202 | 4 | 26 | Kansas | |
| 70 | Weaver, Emanuel | NT | 6-4 | 260 | 2 | 24 | South Carolina | |
| 57 | Williams, Reggie | LB | 6-0 | 228 | 9 | 30 | Dartmouth | |
| 77 | Wilson, Mike | T | 6-5 | 271 | 7 | 29 | Georgia | |
| 32 | Wilson, Stanley | RB | 5-10 | 210 | 2 | 23 | Oklahoma | |

DRAFTES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Hunley, Ricky | LB | 6-1 | 237 | Arizona |
| 1 | Koch, Pete | DE | 6-6 | 265 | Maryland |
| 1 | Blados, Brian | OT | 6-4 | 308 | North Carolina |
| 2 | Esiason, Boomer | QB | 6-4 | 210 | Maryland |
| 3 | Jennings, Stanford | RB | 6-1 | 205 | Furman |
| 4 | Farley, John | RB | 5-10 | 202 | Cal.-Sac. |
| 5 | Bussey, Barney | DB | 6-0 | 195 | S.C. St. |
| 6 | Kern, Don | TE | 6-4 | 225 | Arizona St. |
| 7 | Barker, Leo | LB | 6-1 | 221 | New Mexico St. |
| 8 | Reimers, Bruce | OT | 6-7 | 280 | Iowa St. |
| 9 | Kozerski, Bruce | C | 6-4 | 275 | Holy Cross |
| 10 | Jackson, Aaron | LB | 6-2 | 235 | North Carolina |
| 10 | Ziegler, Brent | RB | 5-11 | 227 | Syracuse |
| 11 | McKeaver, Steve | RB | 6-0 | 200 | Central St. |
| 12 | Raquet, Steve | LB | 6-4 | 241 | Holy Cross |



he caught 66 passes for 1,126 yards (a 17-yard average) and five touchdowns. He was a starter in the Pro Bowl again. Graybeard Isaac Curtis and Steve Kreider, used mostly on multiple-receiver sets, each caught 42 passes. The mystery continues to be David Verser, who was the team's first-round pick the same season Collinsworth was the second-rounder. He caught only seven passes last year.

Since Johnson was too reluctant to stay a Bengal, a new hope may be Stanley Wilson, who averaged 4.8 yards on 56 carries as a rookie. He was the only Cincinnati back to catch a touchdown pass. Charles Alexander was the second-leading ground gainer, with 513 yards, but his longest run in 153 carries was for 12 yards.

Wide receiver Cris Collinsworth (above) and No. 1 draft choice Ricky Hunley (#89) of Cincinnati



The Bengals' defense, which finished first overall in the NFL, tied for second in defense vs. the run, and third against the pass, allowed 20 points or fewer in ten games. They lost half of those games, which tells you something about the offense.

One happy ending for the Bengals was the re-signing of inside linebacker Glenn Cameron, who was flirting with the USFL. The rest of the linebacking crew is a mystery, except for Reggie Williams, Cameron's partner as right outside linebacker. Williams was the top blitzer, with 7½ sacks. He also recovered four fumbles. With Dinkel and LeClair gone, Guy Frazier and Rick Razzano are the likely starters on the left.

The large subtraction in the secondary is long-time right cornerback Ken Riley, who retired after 15 years as a starter. In his final season, he tied for the AFC interception title, with eight, and was selected on a number of all-pro teams. Riley's successor is second-year man Ray Horton, who was second on the team with five interceptions, returning one for a touchdown (Riley had two TD returns) in his role as nickel back. The safeties, strong-sider Bobby Kemp and free safety Robert Jackson, are both aggressive, hard-hitting youngsters. Jim Turner, John Simmons, and Jim Griffin are capable backups.

The defensive line features Eddie Edwards, one of the NFL's top pass rushers. He had 13 sacks last year. Ross Browner, suspended for the first month of the season along with Pete Johnson, played steadily but not spectacularly upon his return. Glen Collins, who comes into the game when the Bengals use a four-man rush, had five sacks. The Bengals used the Denver system with their nose tackles, keeping a fresh one, either Jerry Boyarsky or Tim Krumrie, in the game at all times.

On paper, at least, the Bengals had a helpful draft, passing up their chance to pick Steve Young for numbers of players. Of their three first-round picks, the one with the best chance to start immediately is Arizona linebacker Ricky Hunley. Defensiver end Pete Koch of Maryland and North Carolina's huge offensive tackle Brian Blados will have to wait awhile. Boomer Esiason, the Maryland quarterback selected in the second round, could turn out to be their man of the future if his attitude can be adjusted. Furman's Stanford Jennings is insurance.



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CLEVELAND BROWNS

It's testimonial time for the new Cleveland quarterback:

Owner Art Modell, on keeping Paul McDonald away from the USFL: "With the signing of Paul McDonald, I feel our quarterback problem is solid for many years to come."

Coach Sam Rutigliano: "We have no hang-ups about Paul McDonald. He is a topflight NFL quarterback and will be for the next ten years. It's Paul's turn to step up among the elite throwers in the NFL. He's already taken us to the playoffs once, and he'll do it again. He's a special player."

Paul McDonald: "I think the whole thing has developed like a novel. It has really been an almost ideal situation for me. I've had four years to watch [Brian] Sipe play a position that he played very well, and I've learned a lot from that. I wanted to play more, but I've had some opportunities. I'm ready, and it's time for the next chapter. This is a team ready to make a run, and we hope the final chapter has a Super Bowl. I think we can do it."

They are talking about a fifth-year quarterback who threw just one touchdown pass last year, who completed a mere 47.1 percent of his passes for a paltry 341 yards. They sound as if they are whistling past the graveyard. The Brian Sipe era is over in Cleveland and McDonald is the only alternative. Most of the scouts who were lukewarm about his arm when he was drafted in the fourth round in 1980 say it's no stronger now. His credentials rest mostly with a few starts in the truncated season of 1982, when the Browns made the playoffs. His passing was nothing special.

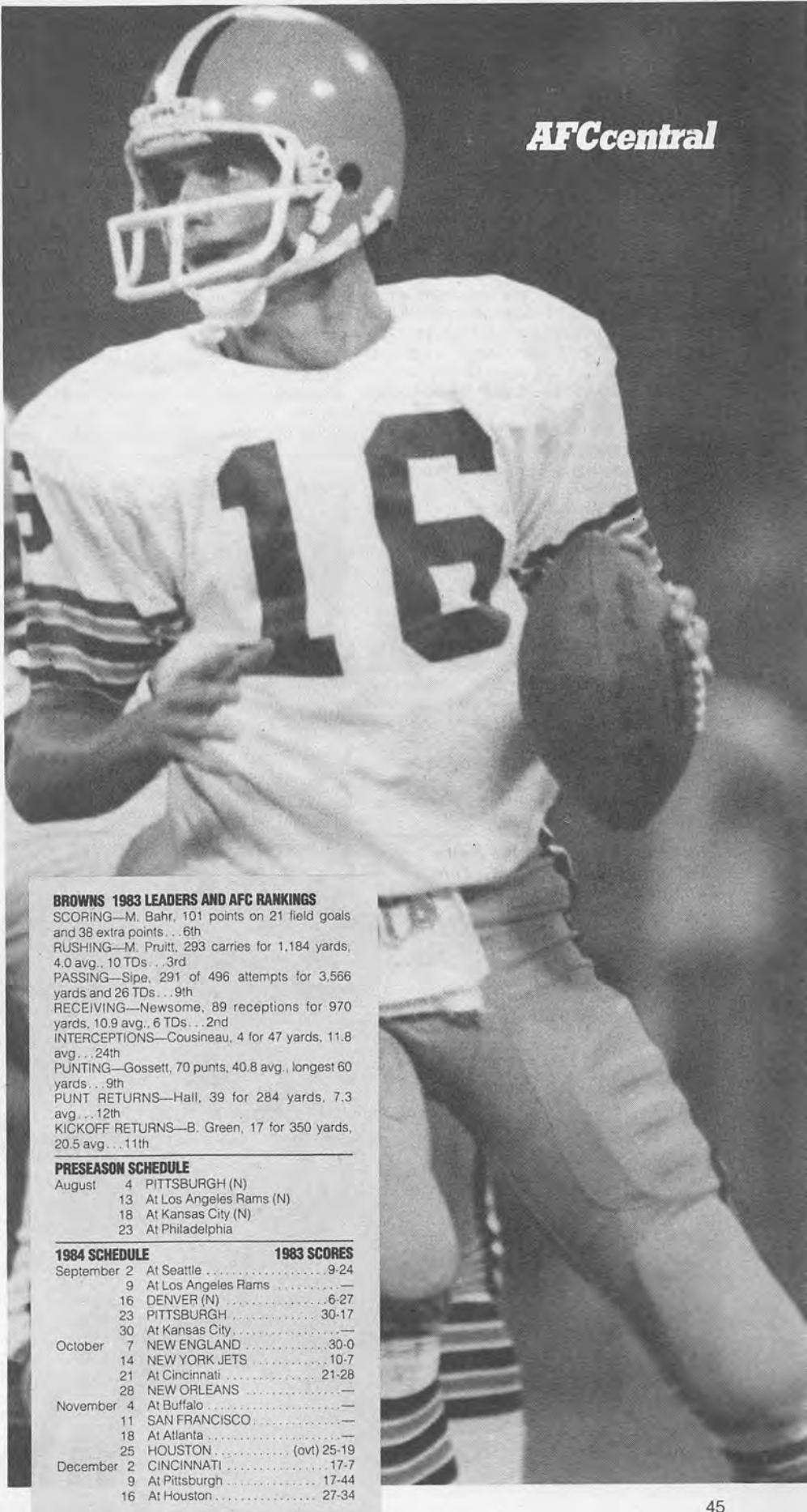
There is another thing. When Sipe went to the New Jersey Generals of the USFL, the Browns hooted that the new league was getting damaged goods, that Sipe has a bum arm and a gimpy knee. If that was so, how come McDonald didn't play more in 1983? The best thing in McDonald's favor is that there was as much skepticism about Sipe when he became the Browns' starting quarterback in the mid 1970s.

McDonald's assets are the company he keeps in the Cleveland offense. The Browns have a veteran, skilled offensive line, sound receiving which should be even better in '84, and a first-rate fullback in Mike Pruitt. What's lacking is team speed, especially a running back who can turn the corner.

The line has one of the NFL's top comers, Mike Babb, at center, dependable Joe DeLamieure and Robert Jackson at guards, with Cody Risien, one of the more underrated linemen in the NFL, at right tackle. There is a glaring hole at left tackle, where Doug Dieken retired and the untested Bill Contz is his probable replacement.

Ozzie Newsome, the tight end, was the NFL's second-leading receiver, with 89 catches and six touchdowns. He didn't make the Pro Bowl, which prompted Rutigliano to point out, "He caught 89 passes without the

Quarterback Paul McDonald directs the skilled Cleveland offense.



AFCcentral

BROWNS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—M. Bahr, 101 points on 21 field goals and 38 extra points... 6th
RUSHING—M. Pruitt, 293 carries for 1,184 yards, 4.0 avg., 10 TDs... 3rd
PASSING—Sipe, 291 of 496 attempts for 3,566 yards and 26 TDs... 9th
RECEIVING—Newsome, 89 receptions for 970 yards, 10.9 avg., 6 TDs... 2nd
INTERCEPTIONS—Cousineau, 4 for 47 yards, 11.8 avg... 24th
PUNTING—Gossett, 70 punts, 40.8 avg., longest 60 yards... 9th
PUNT RETURNS—Hall, 39 for 284 yards, 7.3 avg... 12th
KICKOFF RETURNS—B. Green, 17 for 350 yards, 20.5 avg... 11th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|-------------------------|
| August | 4 | PITTSBURGH (N) |
| | 13 | At Los Angeles Rams (N) |
| | 18 | At Kansas City (N) |
| | 23 | At Philadelphia |

| 1984 SCHEDULE | | 1983 SCORES |
|---------------|----|-------------------------------|
| September | 2 | At Seattle 9-24 |
| | 9 | At Los Angeles Rams 6-7 |
| | 16 | DENVER (N) 6-27 |
| | 23 | PITTSBURGH 30-17 |
| | 30 | At Kansas City — |
| October | 7 | NEW ENGLAND 30-0 |
| | 14 | NEW YORK JETS 10-7 |
| | 21 | At Cincinnati 21-28 |
| | 28 | NEW ORLEANS — |
| November | 4 | At Buffalo — |
| | 11 | SAN FRANCISCO — |
| | 18 | At Atlanta — |
| | 25 | HOUSTON (ovt) 25-19 |
| December | 2 | CINCINNATI 17-7 |
| | 9 | At Pittsburgh 17-44 |
| | 16 | At Houston 27-34 |

benefit of playing with a Wes Chandler, Charlie Joiner, or Cliff Branch-type receiver. Every team we played had a goal of stopping Ozzie first." The Browns play a ball-control offense now, and Newsome averaged 10.9 yards a catch, low for him. Rutigliano made a move to give Newsome a speed receiver when he dealt with Miami for Duriel Harris. Bobby Jones, the ex-Jet, averaged 14.1 yards on 36 grabs, with four TDs, second to Newsome. The Browns acquired a stellar second tight end from the Canadian League when they signed Harry Holt. He beat San Diego in overtime when he caught a 48-yard touchdown pass from Sipe.

The Browns drafted some possible new targets for McDonald. Bruce Davis of Baylor, who runs the 60-yard dash in 6.17 and the 100 meters in 10.3, both world-class times, was the first. He caught 71 passes during his college career and scored 13 TDs. The bad news is that he's just 5-8 and 160 pounds. After him came SMU's 250-pound tight end Ricky Bolden, who might end up playing tackle, and Brian Brennan, Doug Flutie's favorite receiver at Boston College.

Pruitt, especially considering that he has no outside runner to open up the defenses, had another superb year, gaining 1,184 yards and scoring ten touchdowns. Rookie Boyce Green was the closest the Browns had to a fast back. He averaged 4.8 yards on 104 carries.

Defensively, the Browns have what may be the best linebacking in football, with Chip Banks and Clay Matthews on the outside and Tom Cousineau and either Dick Ambrose or Scott Nicolas inside. Banks was the only Cleveland backer to go to the Pro Bowl, repeating his rookie trip, but Cousineau had a magnificent year, recovering from his Canadian League cobwebs. He led the team in tackles, had four sacks, caused two fumbles, and

recovered a couple more. Matthews, the best of all, was second in tackles, had a team-high seven sacks, and forced four fumbles.

The linebackers accounted for 15 of the team's 32 sacks. The defensive backs had two. That's part of the defensive problem. Cleveland is in the midst of building a defensive line. The beginning came when the Browns acquired Bob Golic from the New England Patriots and converted him from linebacker to nose tackle. Last season, rookie Reggie Camp moved into the starting lineup as the left end. He had 4½ sacks. The right-end position is a muddle. Elvis Franks (four sacks) finished as the starter on that side, ahead of young Keith Baldwin, but during the winter the Browns traded for Philadelphia veteran Carl Hairston.

The secondary is suspect. The only impressive player is cornerback Hanford Dixon, but he is better noted for his support against the run than he is as a ball hawk. "I have to improve my catching the ball," he admits. Dixon intercepted only three passes. Mike Whitwell,

a converted receiver, has a chance to become a formidable free safety. Rod Perry, 31, finished up as the starting left corner. Clinton Burrell is the strong safety. Clarence Scott and Larry Braziel, who started at left corner until he got hurt, provide veteran depth. The Browns strengthened themselves in the draft with their first two choices. The first pick was UCLA's Don Rogers, the best safety available. He's a smart hitter with good range and a knack for playing well in the big games. Chris Rockins, an Oklahoma State cornerback better known as a hitter than as a coverage guy, was pick No. 2.

Matt Bahr had a first-rate year, converting 21 of 24 field-goal attempts. He was six-for-seven between the 40 and 49. Jeff Gossett dropped 17 kicks inside the 20 and averaged 40.8 yards a punt. The return and coverage work was nothing special.

BROWNS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | NFL exp | age | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|---------|-----|----------------|
| 80 | Adams, Willis | WR | 6-2 | 200 | 5 | 28 | Houston |
| 52 | Ambrose, Dick | LB | 6-0 | 228 | 10 | 31 | Virginia |
| 61 | Baab, Mike | C | 6-4 | 270 | 3 | 25 | Texas |
| 9 | Bahr, Matt | K | 5-10 | 175 | 6 | 28 | Penn St. |
| 99 | Baldwin, Keith | DE | 6-4 | 250 | 3 | 24 | Texas A&M |
| 56 | Banks, Chip | LB | 6-4 | 233 | 3 | 25 | Southern Cal |
| 88 | Balk, Rocky | WR | 6-0 | 187 | 2 | 24 | Miami |
| 47 | Braziel, Larry | CB | 6-0 | 184 | 6 | 30 | Southern Cal |
| 97 | Brown, Thomas | DE | 6-3 | 255 | 4 | 27 | Baylor |
| 49 | Burrell, Clinton | S | 6-1 | 192 | 5 | 28 | LSU |
| 96 | Camp, Reggie | DE | 6-4 | 264 | 2 | 23 | California |
| 59 | Carver, Dale | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 2 | 23 | Georgia |
| 75 | Contz, Bill | T | 6-5 | 260 | 2 | 23 | Penn St. |
| 50 | Cousineau, Tom | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 3 | 27 | Ohio St. |
| 15 | Cox, Steve | P-K | 6-4 | 195 | 4 | 26 | Arkansas |
| 38 | Davis, Johnny | RB | 6-1 | 235 | 7 | 28 | Alabama |
| 64 | DeLamarielle, Joe | G | 6-3 | 260 | 12 | 33 | Michigan St. |
| 54 | DeLeone, Tom | C | 6-2 | 254 | 13 | 34 | Ohio State |
| 73 | Dieken, Doug | T | 6-5 | 252 | 14 | 35 | Illinois |
| 29 | Dixon, Hanford | CB | 5-11 | 182 | 4 | 26 | Southern Miss |
| 74 | Farran, Paul | T | 6-5 | 251 | 2 | 24 | Boston U. |
| 83 | Feacher, Ricky | WR | 5-10 | 180 | 9 | 30 | Miss Valley |
| 10 | Flick, Tom | QB | 6-3 | 190 | 3 | 26 | Washington |
| 94 | Franks, Elvis | DE | 6-4 | 265 | 5 | 27 | Morgan St. |
| 79 | Golic, Bob | NT | 6-2 | 260 | 5 | 27 | Notre Dame |
| 30 | Green, Boyce | RB | 5-11 | 215 | 2 | 24 | Carson-New. |
| 31 | Gross, Al | S | 6-3 | 186 | 2 | 23 | Arizona |
| 78 | Hairston, Carl | DE | 6-4 | 260 | 9 | 32 | Mid-E. Shore |
| 26 | Hall, Dino | RB | 5-7 | 165 | 6 | 29 | Glassboro St. |
| 84 | Harmon, Mike | WR | 6-0 | 208 | 2 | 23 | Mississippi |
| | Harris, Duriel | WR | 5-11 | 184 | 9 | 30 | New Mexico St. |
| 81 | Holt, Harry | TE | 6-4 | 230 | 2 | 27 | Arizona |
| 70 | Hopkins, Thomas | T | 6-6 | 260 | 2 | 24 | Alabama A&M |
| 68 | Jackson, Robert E. | G | 6-5 | 260 | 10 | 31 | Duke |
| 51 | Johnson, Eddie | LB | 6-1 | 215 | 4 | 25 | Louisville |
| 48 | Johnson, Lawrence | CB | 5-11 | 204 | 5 | 27 | Wisconsin |
| 89 | Jones, Bobby | WR | 5-11 | 185 | 7 | 29 | No College |
| 86 | Manning, Wade | WR | 5-11 | 190 | 4 | 29 | Ohio St. |
| 57 | Matthews, Clay | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 7 | 28 | Southern Cal |
| 16 | McDonald, Paul | QB | 6-2 | 185 | 5 | 26 | Southern Cal |
| 82 | Newsome, Ozzie | TE | 6-2 | 232 | 7 | 28 | Alabama |
| 58 | Nicolas, Scott | LB | 6-3 | 226 | 3 | 24 | Miami |
| 40 | Perry, Rod | CB | 5-9 | 185 | 10 | 31 | Colorado |
| 43 | Pruitt, Mike | RB | 6-0 | 225 | 9 | 30 | Purdue |
| 72 | Puzzuoli, Dave | NT | 6-3 | 260 | 2 | 23 | Pittsburgh |
| 63 | Risien, Cody | T | 6-7 | 270 | 6 | 30 | Texas A&M |
| 22 | Scott, Clarence | S | 6-0 | 190 | 14 | 35 | Kansas St. |
| 87 | Stracka, Tim | TE | 6-3 | 225 | 2 | 25 | Wisconsin |
| 12 | Trociano, Rick | QB | 6-0 | 188 | 4 | 25 | Pittsburgh |
| 42 | Walker, Dwight | RB | 5-10 | 185 | 3 | 25 | Nicholls St. |
| 55 | Weathers, Curtis | LB | 6-5 | 230 | 6 | 28 | Mississippi |
| 25 | White, Charles | RB | 5-10 | 190 | 4 | 26 | Southern Cal |
| 81 | Whitwell, Mike | WR | 6-0 | 175 | 3 | 26 | Texas A&M |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|----------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Rogers, Don | DB | 6-1 | 206 | UCLA |
| 2 | Rockins, Chris | DB | 6-0 | 202 | Oklahoma St. |
| 2 | Davis, Bruce | WR | 5-8 | 160 | Baylor |
| 4 | Bolden, Ricky | TE | 6-5 | 257 | SMU |
| 4 | Brennan, Brian | WR | 5-10 | 180 | Boston College |
| 5 | Piegkorn, Dave | OT | 6-6 | 272 | N. Dakota St. |
| 6 | Nugent, Terry | QB | 6-1 | 218 | Colorado St. |
| 7 | Dumont, Jim | LB | 6-1 | 220 | Rutgers |
| 9 | Jones, Don | WR | 6-2 | 200 | Texas A&M |
| 10 | Byner, Ernest | RB | 5-10 | 220 | East Carolina |

The Browns feature Mike Pruitt (#43) and Bob Golic (#79), Tom Cousineau, and Chip Banks (#56).



HOUSTON OILERS

Periodically, Bud Adams, the unpredictable owner of the Oilers, turns over a new leaf. He'll neglect his team or make some enormous managerial error which brings quick decay to the Oilers, then, as if in a spell of remorse, he'll rush all over the place trying to make them well again as his interest is renewed. This is a new-leaf year for Bud.

The Oilers, a basket case since Bum Phillips was fired, are experiencing a renaissance. There is a new head coach, Hugh Campbell, who brings a completely new outlook to the Oilers. There is a new quarterback, Warren Moon, after whom a half dozen NFL teams panted when he won his free agency from the Canadian League's Edmonton Eskimos. There is a new hot receiver, Butch Johnson, from cross-state rival Dallas. And another fresh stud, Nebraska's Dean Steinkuhler, for what may become the strongest offensive line in pro football.

The NFL doesn't really know what to think about Hugh Campbell. He won five consecutive Grey Cup championships in Canada, an unprecedented feat, then jumped to the USFL with the Los Angeles Express. But he was less than a hit there. One of the knocks against him was his inability to decide which quarterback he wanted to start. He ended up using the two-quarterback system, which in the NFL is undeniable evidence of indecision.

He should have no such problem with the Oilers. Oliver Luck finished as their rookie

starter late last year, and Gifford Nielsen had been a starter in the past. But Moon was the quarterback who won those five consecutive Grey Cups for Campbell. Besides, Adams isn't paying Moon millions to share a job. Nielsen saw the obvious and retired.

Houston won two games last year with a pass offense which consisted of Tim Smith and little else. Smith caught 83 passes, high among NFL wide receivers. He's not a burner, but he is one of the more underrated players in pro football. His dependability should enhance Johnson's debut in Houston. Butch is a spectacular player who has a knack of making the big catch in desperate situations. His touchdown grab against Denver in Super Bowl XII is still one of the most electrifying feats in the history of the classic.

With Smith on one side and Johnson on the other, opportunities should be created for Chris Dressel, who started at tight end as a rookie. Moon is a quarterback who throws on the run, and Dressel (John Elway's main target at Stanford) may be the safety valve he looks for often.

Meanwhile, the Oilers are building an awesome line. Steinkuhler, the Outland Trophy winner, is the third No. 1 draft choice on that unit in the last three seasons. The others are guard Mike Munchak and Bruce Matthews,

who moves to tackle to accommodate Steinkuhler. Harvey Salem was a rookie starter at right tackle last year. For stabilizing influence, there is ex-Ram Doug France, who made a commendable comeback with the Oilers.



Quarterback Warren Moon, formerly of Edmonton and now with Houston



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Despite the acquisition of Moon, the Oilers aren't expected to discard their ball-control running game. Not with Earl Campbell still on their roster. Earl gained 1,301 yards last season and scored a dozen touchdowns. There is another big back lined up with Campbell now. He's ex-Notre Dame Larry Moriarty, who averaged 4.9 yards on his 65 carries and ran 80 yards for a touchdown.

Even though the Oilers took Steinkuhler with their first choice, theirs was a defensive draft. The Oilers used their next seven picks for defensive help. (The defensive tilt would have

been even more pronounced if the Oilers had been able to reach an agreement with Florida linebacker Wilber Marshall before draft day. He was actually their first preference.) The most likely rookies to supply defensive help immediately are Doug Smith, the big end from Auburn, providing he can shed some of the extra 20 pounds he took on after the last college season, and Bo Eason, the safety from California-Davis, who is the younger brother of New England quarterback Tony Eason. The rest of the defensive draft included linebacker Johnny Meads of Nicholls State, end Mark Studaway of Tennessee, back Patrick Allen of Utah State, and linebackers Robert Lyles of TCU and John Grimsley of Kentucky. Smith will zero in on Bob Hamm, a free agent who started most of the season at left end. Eason's quarry will be free safety Carter Hartwig.

Jesse Baker, the team's top pass rusher, will battle it out with Jerome Foster for the right-end position. Brian Sochia, who started at nose tackle for most of his rookie season, will have to contend with Mike Stensrud as well as with ex-Bengal Wilson Whitley, if the latter's career can be salvaged.

The linebacking unit requires a comeback by veterans Robert Brazile, whose play has dropped measurably in the last few seasons, and Gregg Bingham. Robert Abraham comes off the injury list to reclaim his position next to Bingham. Avon Riley may have to overcome Tim Joiner at left outside linebacker.

There could be another major change in the secondary if the Oilers can harness Derrick Hatchett. Acquired from Baltimore on waivers after Frank Kush banished him in a snit, Hatchett was a first-round draft choice just three

years ago. He has undeniable ability, but he is a discipline problem. The Oilers suspended him after he was A.W.O.L. from the last two days of their first mini-camp. Steve Brown and Willie Tullis are the incumbent cornerbacks, but that could change if Hatchett's act can be cleaned up. Eason and Hartwig could find a third contender in Mike Reinfeldt, assuming his broken ankle is healed fully. Keith Bostic is the returning starter at strong safety.

Place-kicker Florian Kempf had a great year, connecting on 17 of 20 field goals and missing only one of 34 extra points. He was a perfect 12 for 12 on field goals attempted from within the 40-yard line. Both Steve Brown and Carl Roaches returned kickoffs for touchdowns last year, and Roaches averaged eight yards per punt return.

OILERS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| 56 | Abraham, Robert | LB | 6-1 | 215 | 3 | 24 | NC St. |
| 87 | Arnold, Walt | TE | 6-3 | 234 | 5 | 26 | New Mexico |
| 80 | Bailey, Harold | WR | 6-2 | 196 | 3 | 27 | Oklahoma St. |
| 75 | Baker, Jesse | DE | 6-5 | 272 | 6 | 27 | Jacksonville St. |
| 54 | Bingham, Gregg | LB | 6-1 | 225 | 12 | 33 | Purdue |
| 25 | Bostic, Keith | S | 6-1 | 212 | 2 | 23 | Michigan |
| 52 | Brazile, Robert | LB | 6-4 | 237 | 10 | 31 | Jackson St. |
| 24 | Brown, Steve | DB | 5-11 | 188 | 2 | 24 | Oregon |
| 81 | Bryant, Steve | WR | 6-2 | 191 | 3 | 25 | Purdue |
| 34 | Campbell, Earl | RB | 5-11 | 238 | 7 | 29 | Texas |
| 58 | Carter, David | C | 6-2 | 260 | 8 | 31 | W. Kentucky |
| 40 | Craft, Donald | RB | 6-0 | 205 | 3 | 25 | Louisville |
| 88 | Dressel, Chris | TE | 6-4 | 231 | 2 | 23 | Stanford |
| 35 | Edwards, Stan | RB | 6-0 | 210 | 3 | 24 | Michigan |
| 78 | Foster, Jerome | DE | 6-2 | 258 | 2 | 24 | Ohio St. |
| 77 | France, Doug | T | 6-5 | 266 | 9 | 31 | Ohio St. |
| 90 | Hamm, Bob | DE | 6-4 | 248 | 2 | 25 | Nevada-Reno |
| 36 | Hartwig, Carter | S | 6-0 | 207 | 6 | 28 | Southern Cal |
| 21 | Hatchett, Derrick | CB | 5-11 | 184 | 5 | 26 | Texas |
| 23 | Hill, Greg | CB | 6-1 | 189 | 2 | 23 | Oklahoma St. |
| 84 | Holston, Mike | WR | 6-3 | 188 | 4 | 26 | Morgan St. |
| 66 | Howell, Pat | G | 6-6 | 260 | 6 | 27 | Southern Cal |
| 50 | Hunt, Daryl | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 6 | 28 | Oklahoma |
| 6 | James, John | P | 6-3 | 196 | 13 | 35 | Florida |
| 1 | Johnson, Butch | WR | 6-1 | 187 | 9 | 30 | Cat-Riverside |
| 57 | Joiner, Tim | LB | 6-4 | 224 | 2 | 23 | LSU |
| 22 | Kay, Bill | CB | 6-1 | 190 | 4 | 24 | Purdue |
| 4 | Kempf, Florian | K | 5-9 | 170 | 3 | 28 | Pennsylvania |
| 71 | Kennard, Ken | DE | 6-2 | 255 | 8 | 30 | Angelo St. |
| 10 | Luck, Oliver | QB | 6-2 | 193 | 3 | 24 | West Virginia |
| 74 | Matthews, Bruce | OL | 6-4 | 269 | 2 | 23 | Southern Cal |
| 89 | McCloskey, Mike | TE | 6-5 | 240 | 2 | 23 | Penn St. |
| 26 | Meadows, Darryl | S | 6-1 | 199 | 2 | 23 | Toledo |
| 30 | Moriarty, Larry | RB | 6-1 | 228 | 2 | 26 | Notre Dame |
| 63 | Munchak, Mike | G | 6-3 | 275 | 3 | 24 | Penn St. |
| 12 | Ransom, Brian | QB | 6-2 | 205 | 2 | 24 | Tenn St. |
| 73 | Reinfeldt, Mike | S | 6-2 | 192 | 9 | 31 | Wis-Milwaukee |
| 53 | Riley, Avon | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 4 | 26 | UCLA |
| 85 | Roaches, Carl | WR | 5-8 | 170 | 5 | 31 | Texas A&M |
| 73 | Salem, Harvey | T | 6-6 | 264 | 2 | 23 | California |
| 62 | Schuhmacher, John | G | 6-3 | 267 | 4 | 29 | Southern Cal |
| 83 | Smith, Tim | WR | 6-2 | 203 | 5 | 27 | Nebraska |
| 72 | Sochia, Brian | MG | 6-3 | 250 | 2 | 23 | NW. Oklahoma |
| 67 | Stensrud, Mike | MG | 6-5 | 285 | 6 | 28 | Iowa St. |
| 68 | Studdard, Les | C | 6-4 | 260 | 3 | 26 | Texas |
| 76 | Towns, Morris | T | 6-4 | 263 | 8 | 30 | Missouri |
| 51 | Thompson, Ted | LB | 6-1 | 219 | 10 | 31 | SMU |
| 20 | Tullis, Willie | CB | 6-0 | 193 | 4 | 26 | Troy St. |
| 28 | Walls, Herkie | WR | 5-8 | 154 | 2 | 23 | Texas |
| 79 | Whitley, Wilson | MG | 6-3 | 265 | 7 | 29 | Houston |
| 33 | Wilson, J.C. | DB | 6-0 | 184 | 7 | 28 | Pittsburgh |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|--------------|
| 1 | Steinkuhler, Dean | OT | 6-3 | 275 | Nebraska |
| 2 | Smith, Doug | DE | 6-4 | 301 | Auburn |
| 2 | Eason, Bo | DB | 6-2 | 205 | Cal-Davis |
| 3 | Meads, Johnny | LB | 6-2 | 220 | Nicholls St. |
| 4 | Studaway, Mark | DE | 6-3 | 250 | Tennessee |
| 4 | Allen, Patrick | DB | 5-10 | 180 | Utah St. |
| 5 | Lyles, Robert | LB | 6-1 | 210 | TCU |
| 6 | Grimsley, John | LB | 6-2 | 225 | Kentucky |
| 6 | Mullins, Eric | WR | 5-11 | 175 | Stanford |
| 7 | Joyner, Willie | RB | 5-10 | 200 | Maryland |
| 8 | Baugh, Kevin | WR | 5-9 | 175 | Penn St. |
| 9 | Donaldson, Jeff | DB | 6-0 | 180 | Colorado |
| 9 | Johnson, Mike | DE | 6-5 | 225 | Illinois |
| 9 | Russell, Mike | LB | 6-1 | 230 | Toledo |



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SPORTS

WHO'S NUMBER ONE?

by **LARRY FELSER**
BUFFALO NEWS

At least nine NFL teams approach the new season with unanswered questions about their quarterbacks.

It's possible for baseball managers to platoon right fielders and third basemen. A hockey coach can rotate his goalkeepers. It's even feasible in football to juggle defensive linemen, some for pass rushing, some for anti-run strategy. The trouble starts when a football coach has more than one quarterback for one starting job. The war stories abound:

Clint Longley, frustrated at not being rewarded with a starting position after rescuing the Dallas Cowboys in a memorable game against the Washington Redskins, slugged Roger Staubach in the locker room.

Joe Theismann, freshly defected from the Canadian League, where he was a star, was frozen out artistically and socially by Redskin quarterbacks Billy Kilmer and Sonny Jurgensen. He volunteered, out of frustration, to return punts. Coach George Allen allowed him to do it.

Jack Kemp and Daryle Lamonica, at the height of their rivalry in Buffalo, attended a luncheon which turned out to be a hotbed of Lamonica supporters. The toastmaster introduced Kemp as "quarterback for the Buffalo Bills." He introduced Lamonica as "the best quarterback in professional football." The audience rose to give Daryle a two-minute ovation while Kemp sat silently mortified.

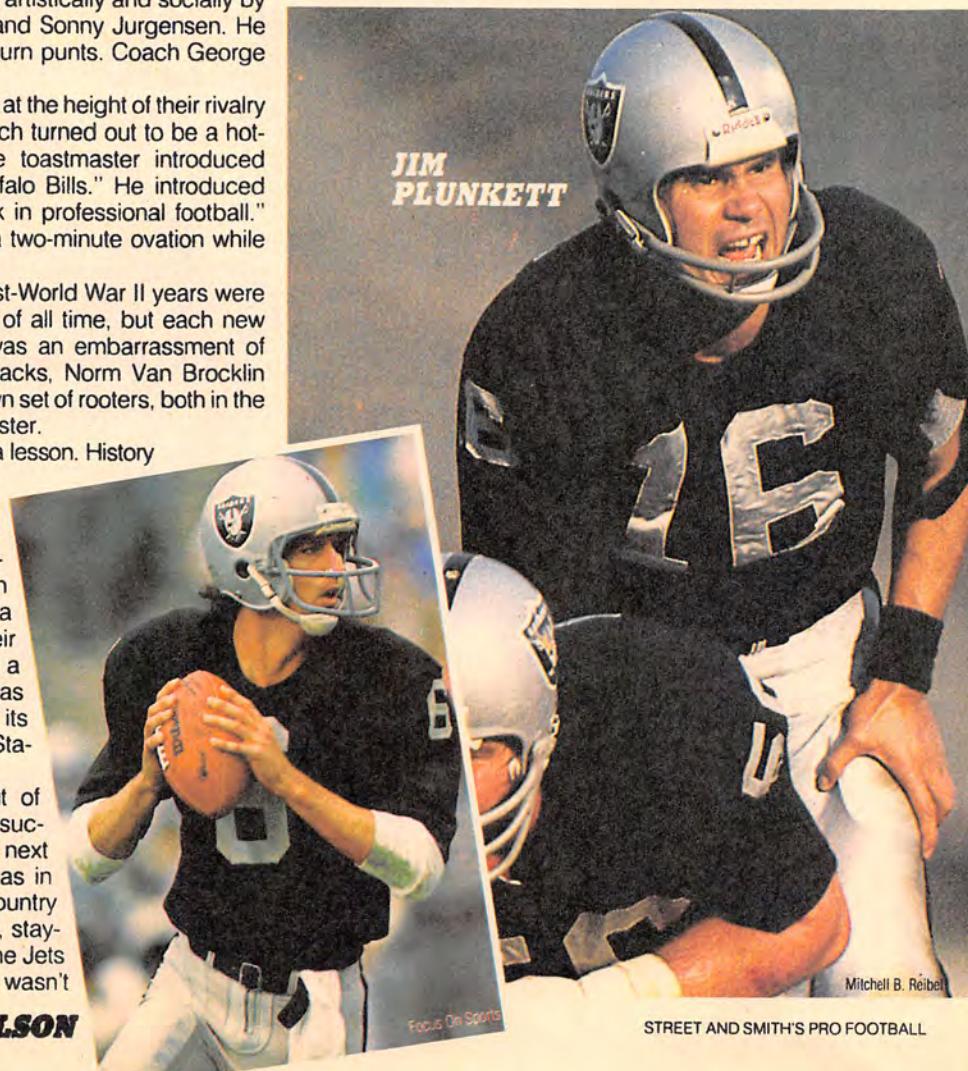
The Los Angeles Rams of the post-World War II years were one of the great scoring machines of all time, but each new Rams' coach found his problem was an embarrassment of riches—two Hall of Fame quarterbacks, Norm Van Brocklin and Bob Waterfield. Each had his own set of rooters, both in the stadium seats and on the players' roster.

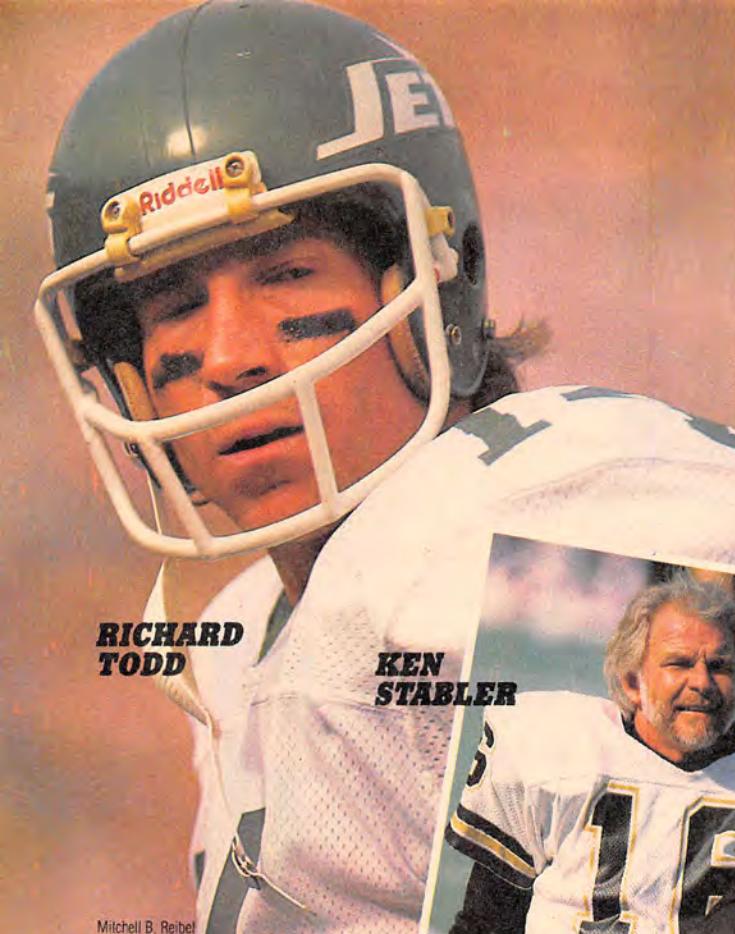
But all the war stories fail to teach a lesson. History continues to repeat itself in professional football. Consider the New Orleans Saints of 1984. They acquired an established starting quarterback, Richard Todd, at a bargain price. They paid the New York Jets a mere first-round draft choice for their long-time starter. But that bargain is a dangerous one. New Orleans also has two other quarterbacks of note on its depth chart, incumbent starter Ken Stabler and young Dave Wilson.

Todd always seemed to be out of sync with the Jets. As Joe Namath's successor, he was expected to be the next Broadway Joe, statistically as well as in lifestyle. But Todd, an Alabama country boy, rarely ventured into Manhattan, staying instead on Long Island, where the Jets are based. Even there, though, he wasn't

exactly Hempstead Turnpike Richard. He was too withdrawn, sensitive, and, yes, immature. That didn't stop the Jets from treating him in the Namath manner. He was coddled, overprotected, patted on the head too often. When things went wrong, Todd sulked. Too often he shrank from his leadership role.

The Jets thought they saw years of victories ahead of them with Todd at his peak when they reached the American Conference championship game in 1983. They had just come off smashing playoff victories against the Raiders and Cincinnati in their own stadiums. In the AFC title game against Miami, the Jets might have won with any sort of decent passing day from Todd, since the Dolphins' quarterback, David Woodley, was





RICHARD TODD

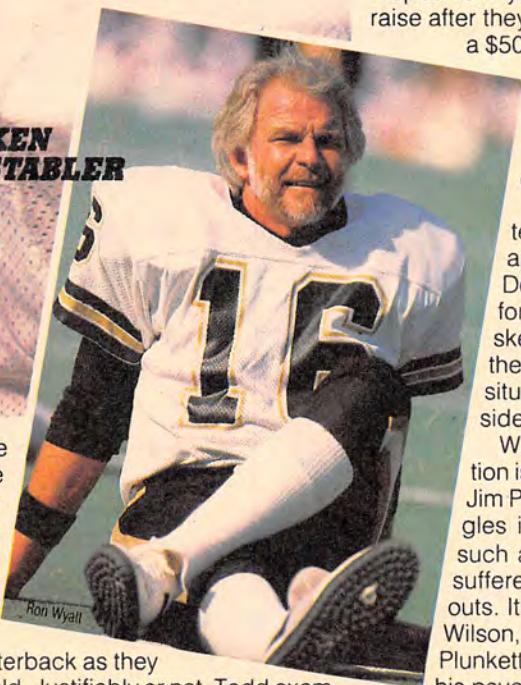
Mitchell B. Reibel

shooting blanks. O.K., the game was played in a rice paddy, but the open receiver Todd kept finding was A.J. Duhe of the Dolphins. After Todd's fifth interception, Marty Lyons, the fiery defensive tackle, was seen screaming at the quarterback as they passed each other on the field. Justifiably or not, Todd exemplified the Jets' league-wide reputation as chokers.

The final straw in Todd's Jet career was the deterioration of his relationship with Joe Walton. As the team's offensive coordinator in 1982, Walton was seen as Todd's guru. As head coach, he was nearly perceived as an adversary by Todd. But that is all behind Richard. "Now I can wear my jeans and cowboy boots without having people laugh at me," says Todd of his New Orleans address. "I'm with my kind of people." He'll find Saints' coach Bum Phillips an expert at blowing smoke. Todd's tender psyche couldn't be more closely guarded in the Tower of London.

Speaking of tender psyches, the Snake, Stabler, has gone through two-quarterback hassles before. When Stabler first came up with the Raiders, Lamonica and George Blanda stood ahead of him. Snake was even sent to the football minors (the Continental League) for a season. In the end Blanda and Stabler stood against Lamonica like Kremlin intriguers. But that was back when Snake could throw a green bean through a keyhole. These days Stabler looks like a scruffy version of singer Kenny Rogers, except that Rogers's throwing arm may be stronger. The Saints' speedsters, Lindsay Scott and Bobby Duckworth, sit and watch while Stabler operates with slow, possession-type receivers such as Jeff Groth and Hobie Brenner, since they fit his current style. Snake can't hoist it downfield any longer, but Todd can.

Then there is Dave Wilson, in whom the Saints invested a first-round draft choice three years ago. When the Saints fell



KEN STABLER

Ron Wyatt

behind last season and throwing downfield was an integral part of their catch-up design, Wilson was summoned. But Phillips never has been famous as a developer of young quarterbacks. He works far better with veterans.

Meanwhile, back in New York, the other half of the Richard and Snake and Pat and Ken show is playing. In the Jets' camp Walton is conducting a Romper Room for quarterbacks. Pat Ryan, Todd's long-time backup, never started a game in his entire pro career. In fact, he was a substitute for most of his college career at Tennessee. Ken O'Brien, whom the Jets selected in the first round in last season's year-of-the-quarterback draft—passing up Dan Marino, who became a Pro Bowl quarterback for Miami—never has taken a snap from center in a real NFL game. The Jets had enough respect for Ryan's potential to give him a voluntary \$200,000 raise after they signed O'Brien to a huge contract (Todd got a \$500,000 boost). O'Brien represents a test for the

Jets' chief talent scout, Mike Hickey, as well as for Walton. Hickey was one of the only NFL scouts who rated O'Brien's potential in the first-round category. He still stands by his decision to pass up Marino.

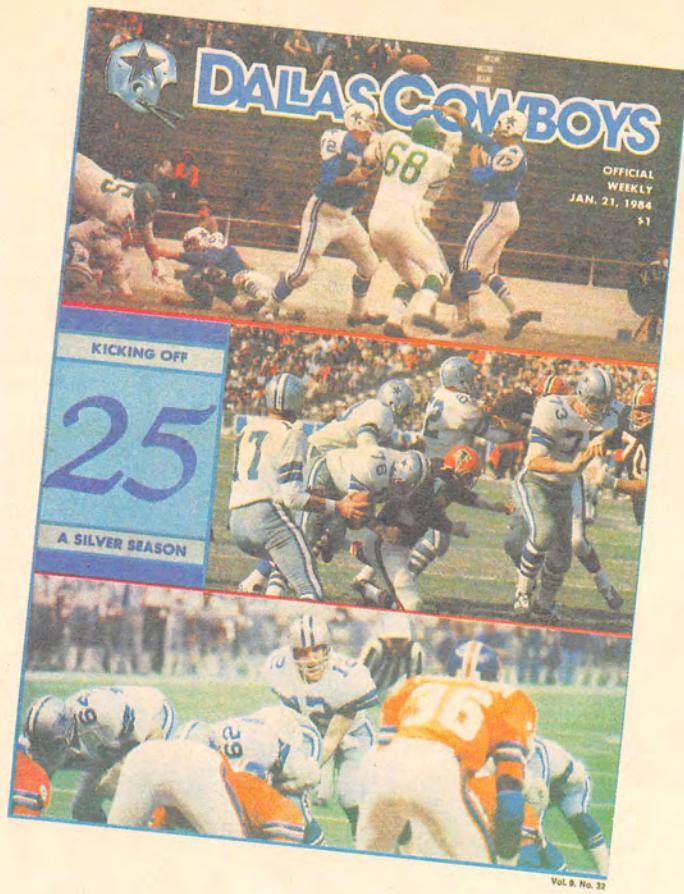
The Jets saw themselves as a Super Bowl team before the start of last season. Now they appear to be starting over. The questions are: Do they think they still have enough talent to bid for the playoffs, and, if so, will they rely on Ryan's sketchy experience to get them there? Or will they make a fresh start with O'Brien? In normal situations, a Super Bowl winner doesn't even consider the thought of a quarterback change.

With the Los Angeles Raiders, almost no situation is normal. The Raiders recall what happened to Jim Plunkett after they bombed the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XV. The offense went through such a down period the next season that the team suffered a modern-record three consecutive shutouts. It was then that Plunkett was replaced by Marc Wilson, for whom that season was on-the-job training. Plunkett is three years older now, and the condition of his psyche is always a mystery. Last year Wilson actually took away the starting quarterback job from Plunkett in mid-season. After flirting with the USFL New Jersey Generals, Marc signed his \$600,000-a-year contract with the Raiders, then passed his team to a stirring victory over Dallas. Not long after, he suffered a shoulder injury chasing down a Seattle Seahawk who had intercepted one of his passes, and Plunkett was back at the controls.

Who is to say that there would not have been a similar result in Super Bowl XVIII had Wilson been the quarterback for the Raiders and not Plunkett? If Al Davis thought he needed another quarterback, he wouldn't have drafted an offensive tackle, Don Mosebar, in a season of great quarterback prospects. The Raiders know how to handle such traumatic goings on. Remember Stabler's feud with Davis? Recall the failure of Dan Pastorini after the Raiders traded Stabler to

Houston for him? Think back to the resuscitation of a washed-up Plunkett.

In Denver, the Broncos had a thorny situation of their own making. It was hardly possible for Dan Reeves, the Broncos' coach, to have handled John Elway in a more heavy-handed manner. Reeves seemed so intoxicated by the spectacular trade which brought Elway to Denver that he misgauged the importance of Elway's impressive showings against the vanilla defenses the opposition presented in the preseason games. On the basis of that summertime display, Reeves gave the rookie the job which had **continued**



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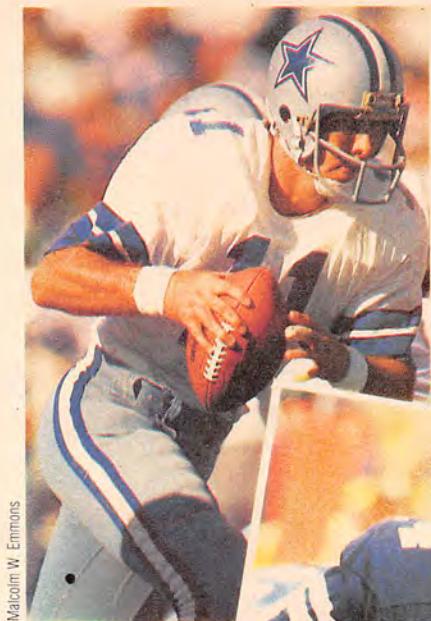
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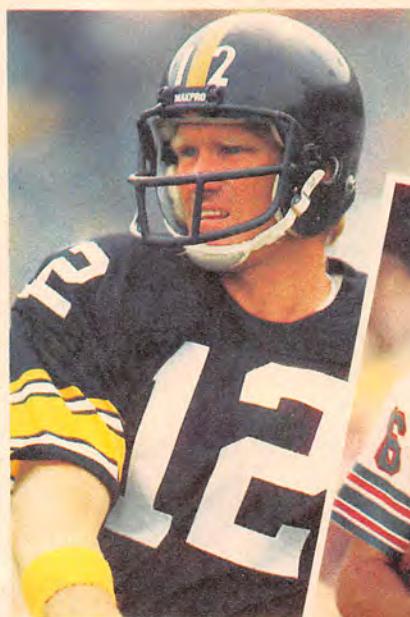


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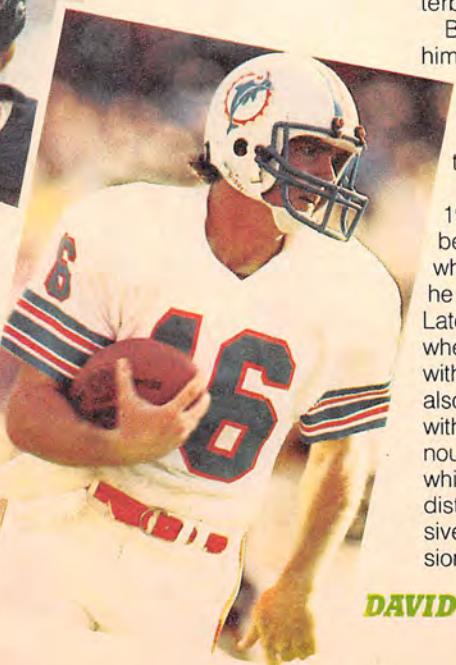


GARY
HOGEBOOM



TERRY
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DAVID WOODLEY

WHO'S NUMBER ONE?

been Steve DeBerg's. When real shells were loaded into the defensive cannons as the regular season began, Elway stumbled into the normal mistakes of any rookie quarterback, no matter his raw skills. DeBerg had to come to the rescue immediately.

One thing in DeBerg's favor was that he was accustomed to playing with an inferior offense in Denver. His teammates had bled with him. He had their allegiance, especially that of the veterans. They resented Elway to begin with because of the enormous contract he received and even more so when his rookie fat had to be pulled out of the fire by DeBerg. The smart course would have been for Reeves to allow DeBerg to play himself out of the lineup, as David Woodley did in Miami, then to bring in Elway when the fans, and even the veteran players, were looking for an alternative, much as Dan Marino was brought into the Dolphins' lineup by coach Don Shula. This year will be a bit easier for Reeves, in that he won't have intense pressure coming from owner Edgar Kaiser, who committed the money and made the deal for Elway. Kaiser sold the team last March. And DeBerg was traded to Tampa Bay in April for a fourth-round draft pick.

In Dallas, coach Tom Landry and a large percentage of the Cowboys' followers have reached the conclusion that Danny White is not going to be Roger Staubach. In Dallas, anything less may not be acceptable. White's biggest problem is that he can't seem to close the sale. The Cowboys get so far and no further with Danny at quarterback. Last year they virtually disintegrated in the last three games, beginning with a one-sided loss to the hated Redskins.

The alternative is Gary Hogeboom, who represents the mystique of the No. 2 quarterback. When No. 1 isn't performing to the fans' satisfaction, there is some unidentifiable appeal to No. 2, a fantasy of sorts. Hogeboom never has won a game for the Cowboys. His finest moment was in the 1982 NFC title game against Washington, after Dexter Manley of the Redskins sent White's thought process on holiday. Hogeboom rallied Dallas, but Washington won in the end. Yet Hogeboom benefits from the "ABW syndrome in Dallas." That is, "anyone but White."

One of the strangest quarterback stories is that of the New York Giants. The assumption is that if Phil Simms is healthy, he's the starter. But that may be an erroneous assumption. When Simms was healthy at the beginning of last season, coach Bill Parcells couldn't differentiate between three quarterbacks: Simms, Scott Brunner, and Jeff Rutledge.

Brunner, off his performance following Simms's injury, took himself out of this contest even before he was sent to Denver, where he joins Gary Kubiak as backups to Elway. Rutledge was an outsider, but he had some reasonably good moments. Still, Simms seems the obvious choice if the Giants are serious about getting out of their losing rut.

The Joe Ferguson Show has been playing in Buffalo since 1973, but it may be running its course. Ferguson always has been a quarterback who can beat just about any defense when he's hot, or lose to any defense when he's not. Last year he threw 26 touchdown passes but was intercepted 25 times. Lately, Fergy has committed most of his faltering in the stretch, when the Bills needed him hot. Buffalo, with a playoff berth within its grasp, lost four of its last five in '83. In 1982, the Bills also lost four of their last five and Ferguson went six games without throwing a touchdown pass. This winter, the Bills announced they had switched the color of their helmets, from white to red, in the hope that the change would help Ferguson distinguish Buffalo receivers from the white-helmeted defensive backs for New England, Miami, and Baltimore in his division. Ironically, one of the Bills' grievous late-season **continued**

WHO'S NUMBER ONE?

losses in '83 came against the blue-helmeted Los Angeles Rams, who intercepted Fergy five times. The alternative to Ferguson is Matt Kofler, another young quarterback who, like Gary Hogeboom of Dallas, never supervised a regular-season victory. Kofler's major moment came last season against the Raiders, when he relieved Ferguson and brought the Bills back from a three-touchdown deficit to tie, 24-24, late in the fourth quarter. A last-minute field goal by Chris Bahr won it for Los Angeles. But if Ferguson continues to decline and Kofler isn't Buffalo's answer, then the Bills will have compounded their error of not signing Jim Kelly, who is the best young passer in the USFL, of the Houston Gamblers. Kelly was drafted by Buffalo on the first round last year.

Pittsburgh's Chuck Noll was forced into a multi-quarterback situation, first by Terry Bradshaw's arm troubles, which put Cliff Stoudt in the starter's role, then by Stoudt's defection to the USFL Birmingham Stallions. Noll's decision to trade for David Woodley of Miami seemed to refine the Steeler tangle into a one-quarterback situation: Woodley in charge of an offense which probably would be altered to take into consideration his scrambling style. But consider the major "what if?" What if Bradshaw comes back with his arm troubles gone? Can Noll afford to discard the quarterback who helped him win four Super Bowls, especially considering that the Steelers won the Central Division championship of the American Conference last year and that giving the job to Woodley in such circumstances would constitute a mighty risk. There is another big question: Where does this put Mark Malone, drafted in the first round four years ago as the potential successor to Bradshaw? If Bradshaw doesn't come back from his injuries, Malone is Woodley's only challenger.

When the Houston Oilers signed Warren Moon to a rich contract after outbidding a half-dozen NFL teams last winter, it seemed that the quarterback competition on that team was closed. But most scouts feel that Moon, who won five Canadian League Grey Cup championships with Edmonton, will take at least a year, maybe more, to acclimate himself to the American pro style, with its smaller field and different rules (particularly the four downs vs. the Canadian League's three). If Moon finds the transition too sticky, brainy young Oliver Luck, who eased into the starting job late in his rookie season last year, could produce a startling individual upset. Gifford Nielson looks like the odd man out.

With all things being equal, Tommy Kramer would be the obvious choice to reclaim his starting quarterback job for the Minnesota Vikings after missing 13 games following a knee injury. But all things are not equal. For one, Kramer has been hurt in three of his five seasons as a starter. For another, despite some staggering statistics (3,912 yards, 26 touchdowns in 1981), Kramer hasn't been the sort of winning quarterback the Vikings expected. Then there was his bout with alcohol in the past. Steve Dills seemed to blow his chance when the Vikings lost six of seven down the stretch with him as the starter. New coach Les Steckel might want to begin anew with Wade Wilson, who led the team to a victory over Cincinnati in its 1983 finale.

Stay tuned.

PHIL SIMMS
JEFF RUTLEDGE



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AFC East



NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

There was a time, not too long ago, when the Patriots were among the well-meaning bumbler, the sort of NFL franchise which expects to muddle through. Things are changing. The Pats are becoming a franchise which seizes the moment. The latest moment came last April, when the Pats dealt with the Cincinnati Bengals for the No. 1 selection in the NFL draft, giving up two first-round picks in the process. New England's philosophy was, "Why be satisfied with two pretty good players when you may get a great player?"

The player the Pats think may turn out to be a great one is Nebraska wide receiver Irving Fryar, a superb athlete. Fryar's arrival adds needed balance to the Pats' offense, which had an overreliance on its power-running game. With the highly skilled Cornhusker in the lineup, opposing defenses can no longer overload their coverage on Stanley Morgan.

This is a team which a lot of football people underestimate. The Pats have a heavy load of assets: one of the best offensive lines in the league, a Pro Bowl running back, two dangerous wide receivers, an underrated veteran quarterback, and a strong secondary.

The heart of the offense is the line, with two Pro Bowl stars, guard John Hannah and tackle Bryan Holloway, with center Pete Brock on the Pro Bowl verge. With Holloway and Hannah lined up on the left side, the Pats can run successfully against just about any defense, something along the lines of what the Raiders used to do when guard Gene Upshaw and tackle Art Shell used to set up alongside each other. The right side of the line isn't shabby either, with Ron Wooten at guard and either Bob Cryder or Darryl Haley at tackle.

Quarterback Steve Grogan and linebacker Johnny Rembert (below) of the much-improved Patriots



With Morgan and Fryar occupying the game plans of most opposing defensive coordinators, there could be major opportunities for Derrick Ramsey, the young tight end who came to the Pats from the Raiders in a mid-season trade which sent tight end Don Hasselbeck and tackle Shelby Jordan to the world champions. Lin Dawson is the blocking tight end. Fryar, of course, and to a great extent Ramsey are unknown quantities. But if they do little more than take the handcuffs off Morgan they will be valuable. Morgan caught 58 passes last season, but he scored only twice, and he's capable of more than his 14.9-yard per-catch average. If the Pats wish to use flood formations, they have two dangerous extra receivers in youngsters Clarence Weathers (a 19.9-yard average and three TDs on 19 catches) and Stephen Starring (22.9-yard average and two TDs on 17 catches).

Of the top 15 ground gainers in the AFC, Tony Collins's 4.8-yard per-carry average was by far the best. If anyone thought the Pats' running would become too one-dimensional with Pro Bowler Collins, the Pats added some change of pace by signing Craig James, with whom Eric Dickerson shared the tailback assignment at SMU under Ron Meyer. James, scheduled to be the San Francisco 49ers' first-round draft choice in 1983 until he signed with the USFL's Washington Federals, was granted free agency by the financially-

strapped Feds. They were so eager to unload James's big salary (\$700,000), that they aided in helping set James free from his USFL obligations. James's arrival should offset the retirement of big back Mark van Eeghen. New England also used a second-round draft pick to add Jon Williams of Penn State, one of the few backs of quality in this year's draft.

The man who will make this offense go isn't young whiz quarterback Tony Eason, who was drafted a year ago in the first round, but the veteran Steve Grogan. Finally making peace with Meyer's way of doing things, Grogan is one of the finest natural leaders in the NFL. After he suffered a broken fibula in the twelfth game of the season, the Pats scored only 37 points in the final five games. Grogan threw for 15 touchdowns and 2,411 yards, but his greatest value is his intangible skill at inspiring a team. Eason, in time, may develop into a star quarterback, but right now the Pats need Grogan to get anywhere in the AFC East.

Defensively, the biggest need is a pass rush which will help out the linebackers and the secondary. The opposition averaged a fat 205 yards passing against the Pats. Much depends upon end Kenneth Sims and nose tackle Lester Williams, the two first-round draftees of 1982. Both have been major underachievers as pros. On the other hand, Julius Adams, at 36, the oldest active defensive lineman in the league, contributed eight sacks. Most of last year's pass rush came from blitzers. Andre Tippett, who shifts from linebacker to a down lineman in passing situations, had 8½ sacks and eight pressures.

The Pats are building an interesting linebacking corps. Steve Nelson, the veteran, and hard-hitting Clayton Weishuhn, play the inside; Tippett and Don Blackmon, another blitzer, are outside. Johnny Rembert, who started often in place of the injured Nelson, is

Wide receiver Irving Fryar (#27), the Pats' No. 1 draft choice, and running back Tony Collins



PATRIOTS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Collins, 60 points on 10 touchdowns...T22nd
RUSHING—Collins, 219 carries for 1,049 yards, 4.8 avg., 10 TDs...6th
PASSING—Grogan, 168 of 303 attempts for 2,411 yards and 15 TDs...6th
RECEIVING—Morgan, 58 receptions for 863 yards, 14.9 avg., 2 TDs...12th
INTERCEPTIONS—Sanford, 7 for 24 yards, 3.4 avg...7th
PUNTING—Camarillo, 81 punts, 44.6 avg., longest 70 yards...2nd
PUNT RETURNS—R. Smith, 38 for 398 yards, 10.5 avg...5th
KICKOFF RETURNS—R. Smith, 42 for 916 yards, 21.8 avg...9th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 3 NEW YORK GIANTS (N)
 11 At Buffalo (N)
 17 At Washington (N)
 24 KANSAS CITY (N) [tentative]

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| September 2 | At Buffalo | 31-0 |
| 9 | At Miami | 24-34 |
| 16 | SEATTLE | 6-24 |
| 23 | WASHINGTON | — |
| 30 | At New York Jets | 3-26 |
| October 7 | At Cleveland | 0-30 |
| 14 | CINCINNATI | — |
| 21 | MIAMI | 17-6 |
| 28 | NEW YORK JETS | 23-13 |
| November 4 | At Denver | — |
| 11 | BUFFALO | 21-7 |
| 18 | At Indianapolis | 7-12 |
| 22 | At Dallas | — |
| December 2 | ST. LOUIS | — |
| 9 | At Philadelphia | — |
| 16 | INDIANAPOLIS | (ovt) 23-29 |

1983 SCORES

a comer, and now the draft brings Ed Williams of Texas, the second-round pick.

The secondary boasts three of the better defensive backs in the AFC: cornerback Raymond Clayborn and safeties Roland James and Rick Sanford. Ronnie Lippett, forced into the lineup when Mike Haynes held out last year, acquitted himself well.

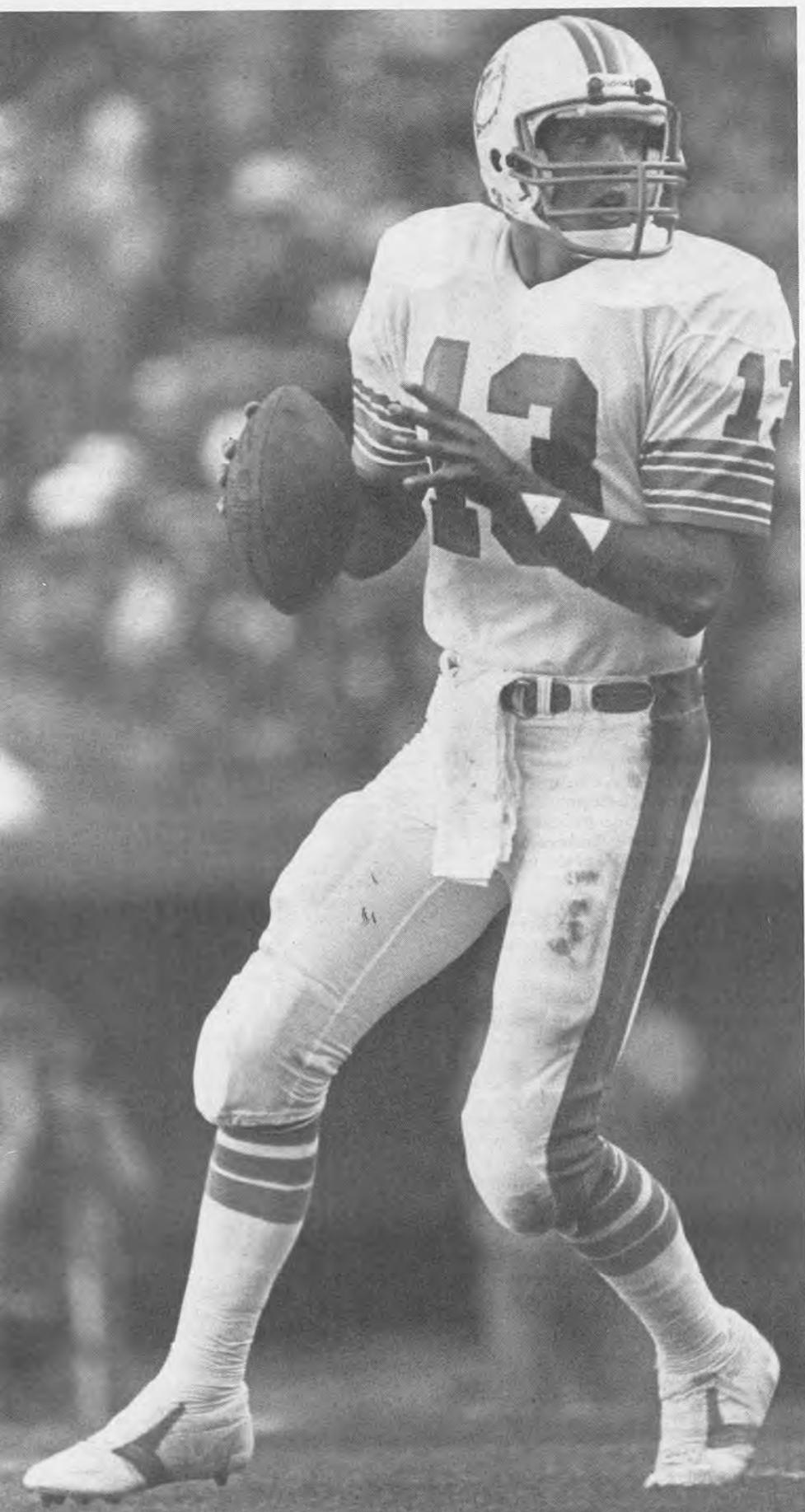
Rich Camarillo was the AFC punter in the Pro Bowl. He had his second straight good season, averaging 44.6 yards and placing 25 punts within the opponents' 20-yard line. Ricky Smith gives the Pats sound return work. He averaged 21.8 yards per kickoff and 10.5 yards on 38 punt returns. The Pats went through three place-kickers with unsatisfactory results—nine field goals in 22 tries—then traded with the Philadelphia Eagles during the winter for the barefooted Tony Franklin and drafted one of the top kickers available, Bruce Kallmeyer of Kansas.

PATRIOTS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| 85 | Adams, Julius | DE | 6-3 | 270 | 13 | 36 | Texas Southern |
| 55 | Blackmon, Don | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 4 | 26 | Tulsa |
| 58 | Brock, Pete | C | 6-5 | 270 | 9 | 30 | Colorado |
| 3 | Camarillo, Rich | P | 5-11 | 191 | 4 | 25 | Washington |
| 26 | Clayborn, Ray | CB | 6-0 | 186 | 8 | 29 | Texas |
| 33 | Collins, Anthony | RB | 5-11 | 203 | 4 | 25 | East Carolina |
| 91 | Crump, George | DE | 6-4 | 260 | 2 | 25 | East Carolina |
| 75 | Cryder, Bob | T | 6-4 | 282 | 7 | 28 | Alabama |
| 87 | Dawson, Lin | TE | 6-3 | 240 | 4 | 25 | N.C. St. |
| 47 | Dombroski, Paul | DB | 6-0 | 185 | 5 | 28 | Linfield |
| 11 | Eason, Tony | QB | 6-4 | 212 | 2 | 25 | Illinois |
| 59 | Golden, Tim | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 3 | 25 | Florida |
| 14 | Grogan, Steve | QB | 6-4 | 210 | 10 | 31 | Kansas St. |
| 68 | Haley, Darryl | T | 6-4 | 265 | 3 | 23 | Utah |
| 73 | Hannah, John | G | 6-3 | 265 | 12 | 33 | Alabama |
| 70 | Henson, Luther | NT | 6-0 | 275 | 3 | 25 | Ohio St. |
| 76 | Holloway, Brian | T | 6-7 | 288 | 4 | 25 | Stanford |
| 51 | Ingram, Brian | LB | 6-4 | 235 | 3 | 25 | Tennessee |
| — | James, Craig | RB | 6-0 | 215 | 1 | 23 | SMU |
| 38 | James, Roland | S | 6-2 | 191 | 5 | 26 | Tennessee |
| 83 | Jones, Cedric | WR | 5-11 | 184 | 3 | 24 | Duke |
| 19 | Kerrigan, Mike | QB | 6-3 | 205 | 2 | 24 | Northwestern |
| 22 | Lee, Keith | DB | 5-11 | 193 | 4 | 27 | Colorado St. |
| 42 | Lippett, Ronnie | CB | 5-11 | 180 | 2 | 24 | Miami |
| 31 | Marion, Fred | S | 6-2 | 191 | 3 | 25 | Miami |
| 50 | McGrew, Larry | LB | 6-5 | 233 | 4 | 27 | Southern Cal |
| 67 | Moore, Steve | T | 6-4 | 265 | 2 | 24 | Tennessee St. |
| 86 | Morgan, Stanley | WR | 5-11 | 181 | 8 | 29 | Tennessee |
| 57 | Nelson, Steve | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 11 | 33 | North Dakota St. |
| 98 | Owens, Dennis | NT | 6-1 | 258 | 3 | 24 | N.C. St. |
| 35 | Peoples, George | RB | 6-0 | 215 | 3 | 24 | Auburn |
| 88 | Ramsey, Derrick | TE | 6-5 | 235 | 7 | 28 | Kentucky |
| 52 | Rembert, Johnny | LB | 6-3 | 234 | 2 | 23 | Clemson |
| 95 | Reynolds, Ed | LB | 6-5 | 230 | 2 | 23 | Virginia |
| 65 | Rogers, Doug | DE | 6-5 | 260 | 3 | 24 | Stanford |
| 25 | Sanford, Rick | S | 6-1 | 192 | 6 | 27 | South Carolina |
| 77 | Sims, Ken | DE | 6-5 | 271 | 3 | 25 | Texas |
| 27 | Smith, Ricky | DB | 6-0 | 182 | 3 | 24 | Alabama St. |
| 81 | Starring, Stephen | WR | 5-10 | 172 | 2 | 23 | McNeese State |
| 30 | Tatupu, Mosi | RB | 6-0 | 227 | 7 | 29 | Southern Cal |
| 56 | Tippett, Andre | LB | 6-3 | 241 | 3 | 23 | Iowa |
| 82 | Weathers, Clarence | WR | 5-9 | 170 | 2 | 22 | Delaware St. |
| 24 | Weathers, Robert | RB | 6-2 | 222 | 3 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 53 | Weishuhn, Clayton | LB | 6-2 | 221 | 3 | 25 | Angelo State |
| 62 | Wheeler, Dwight | C | 6-3 | 274 | 6 | 29 | Tennessee St. |
| 80 | Williams, Brooks | TE | 6-4 | 226 | 7 | 30 | North Carolina |
| 72 | Williams, Lester | NT | 6-3 | 272 | 3 | 25 | Miami |
| 90 | Williams, Toby | DE | 6-3 | 254 | 2 | 25 | Nebraska |
| 88 | Wilson, Darryl | WR | 6-0 | 182 | 2 | 24 | Tennessee |
| 61 | Wooten, Ron | G | 6-4 | 273 | 3 | 25 | North Carolina |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Fryar, Irving | WR | 6-0 | 200 | Nebraska |
| 2 | Williams, Ed | LB | 6-4 | 244 | Texas |
| 3 | Williams, Jon | RB | 5-9 | 205 | Penn St. |
| 5 | Fairchild, Paul | OG | 6-4 | 270 | Kansas |
| 6 | Gibson, Ernest | DB | 5-10 | 185 | Furman |
| 7 | Kallmeyer, Bruce | K | 5-10 | 180 | Kansas |
| 7 | Williams, Derwin | WR | 6-0 | 170 | New Mexico |
| 8 | Keyton, James | OT | 6-5 | 280 | Arizona St. |
| 9 | Bolzan, Scott | OT | 6-4 | 280 | N. Illinois |
| 9 | Windham, David | LB | 6-2 | 240 | Jackson St. |
| 11 | Flager, Charlie | OG | 6-4 | 260 | Washington St. |
| 12 | Howell, Harper | TE | 6-3 | 230 | UCLA |

**MIAMI DOLPHINS**

Why was Don Shula smiling? His Miami Dolphins had just lost a game in overtime to the Buffalo Bills, the first time the Dolphins' pigeons had won in the Orange Bowl since Shula came to Miami.

Well, for one thing, Shula had just become a grandfather for the first time. But also, the game marked the successful starting debut of rookie quarterback Dan Marino. The Dolphins lost only once in the next ten games with Marino at the helm. Shula's gamble that Marino's disappointing senior year at Pitt would be easily corrected in the pros was directly on target. Marino passed for 2,210 yards and 20 touchdowns, and was intercepted only six times. He was the AFC starter in the Pro Bowl. David Woodley, the former starter, was traded to Pittsburgh after the season.

The question for the rest of the AFC East is, How much more effective will Miami be with Marino on the job from the start and after a season's experience? Marino is a Shula-type quarterback, something along the lines of Bob Griese, except with a better arm and more magnetic personality.

But no matter Marino's success, Shula's offensive philosophy is still ball control. Given his druthers, Shula would field a power-running attack, leavened by play-action passes. Andra Franklin gained 746 yards in 224 carries last season, figures off his normal output because he was playing with injured shoulders, a near-incapacitating disability for a power runner. He is capable of more than a 3.3-yard average and a long gain of 18 yards. There was a lot of talk around the NFL that Miami attempted to make a deal for Houston's powerful Earl Campbell, but nothing came of it. The only other power-type runner on the Miami veteran roster is Woody Bennett, who gained 197 yards in a relief role last year. Miami's second-leading ball carrier was Tony Nathan, with 685 yards, but he is more of a specialty player. He led the team in pass receptions, with 52. The outside runner, David Overstreet, down from the CFL two years after Miami made him a No. 1 pick, averaged 4.6 yards on his 85 carries, but his play was too inconsistent for Shula's taste. He'll get a challenge from Alabama draftee Joe Carter.

Other than Marino, the bombshell Dolphin of '83 was wide receiver Mark Duper, a world-class sprinter who made the Pro Bowl as the result of his 51 catches for 1,003 yards and ten touchdowns. With Jimmy Cefalo hurt and lost for the season after the first game, and Duriel Harris—since traded to Cleveland—in disfavor, Nat Moore made a comeback to catch 39 passes for 558 yards and a half dozen touchdowns. Cefalo and Tommy Vigorito, who can play running back or wide receiver, return to give Marino a better variety of targets. The Dolphins still operate with three tight ends. Dan Johnson is the blocking specialist. Joe Rose is the man for deeper pass patterns, and Bruce Hardy does a little bit of everything. Among them they caught 75

Miami quarterback Dan Marino was a Pro Bowl starter last season.

passes. Rose scored three touchdowns and Johnson four.

Dwight Stephenson, who some experts think ranks only behind Mike Webster as the NFL's best center, inherits the shotgun snapping duty as well as everything else since Mark Dennard was traded to Philadelphia. Guard Ed Newman made the Pro Bowl again, and Bob Kuechenberg, starting his fifteenth year, is his partner. Jon Geisler and Eric Laakso are experienced tackles, but this may be the year that Roy Foster challenges them. Cleveland Green and Jeff Toews are veteran reserves.

The big story on defense is that Bill Arnsparger left Miami to become head coach at Louisiana State. The last time Arnsparger left the Dolphins, in the mid 1970s, there was a radical dropoff in efficiency. His cerebral style

DOLPHINS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—von Schamann, 99 points on 18 field goals and 45 extra points...7th
RUSHING—Franklin, 224 carries for 746 yards, 3.3 avg., 8 TDs...13th
PASSING—Marino, 173 of 296 attempts for 2,210 yards and 20 TDs...1st
RECEIVING—Nathan, 52 receptions for 461 yards, 8.9 avg., 1 TD...15th
INTERCEPTIONS—Judson, 6 for 60 yards, 10.0 avg...9th
PUNTING—Roby, 74 punts, 43.1 avg., longest 64 yards...4th
PUNT RETURNS—Clayton, 41 for 392 yards, 9.6 avg., 1 TD...7th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Walker, 36 for 962 yards, 26.7 avg...1st

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|------------------------|
| August | 4 | INDIANAPOLIS (N) |
| | 11 | At Minnesota (N) |
| | 19 | At Los Angeles Raiders |
| | 24 | At Tampa Bay (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|-----------|----|---------------------|-------------|
| September | 2 | At Washington | — |
| | 9 | NEW ENGLAND | 34-24 |
| | 17 | At Buffalo (N) | 12-0 |
| | 23 | INDIANAPOLIS | 37-0 |
| | 30 | At St. Louis | — |
| October | 7 | Pittsburgh | — |
| | 14 | HOUSTON | 24-17 |
| | 21 | At New England | 6-17 |
| | 28 | BUFFALO | (ovt) 35-38 |
| November | 4 | At New York Jets | 32-14 |
| | 11 | PHILADELPHIA | — |
| | 18 | At San Diego | — |
| | 26 | NEW YORK JETS (N) | 34-14 |
| December | 2 | LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 14-27 |
| | 9 | At Indianapolis | 21-7 |
| | 17 | DALLAS (N) | — |

1983 SCORES



The Miami Dolphins feature wide receiver Mark Duper (top), defensive tackle Bob Baumhower (#73), and end Doug Betters, the NFL defensive player of the year.



of defense is a fragile thing to keep intact. The man who replaces Arnsparger is Chuck Studley, who got a head start on his duties after he was fired as coach of the Houston Oilers. He had the opportunity to watch Arnsparger work with his "Killer Bees."

Two of the "Bees," nose tackle Bob Baumhower and defensive end Doug Betters, were Pro Bowl starters. Betters had 16 sacks, double his previous career high, and was named the league's defensive player of the year by the NFL Players' Association. Baumhower was superb in the middle of the defense, contributing heavily to Miami's leading the NFL in fewest points allowed (250, with a 15.6-point-per-game average). The right end is the versatile Kim Bokamper, and the expectation is that Mike Charles, a rookie last year, will play a more prominent role when the Dolphins go to a four-man front.

A.J. Duhe is still the keystone to the linebacking, serving in part as a down lineman. He had 5½ sacks and 87 tackles. His partner is Earnie Rhone, about whom there is some concern because of his 31 years. Bob Bru-

dzinski is the steady man at left outside linebacker. It was his consistency and dependability that helped free Betters as a pass rusher. Brudzinski led the team with 104 tackles, relatively unusual for an outside backer. The surprise was the play of Charles Bowser on the right side. He was hurried into the starting lineup following the tragic death of Larry Gordon. Bowser responded well, even though the opposition tried him often. He had 6½ sacks.

Don McNeal's return (from a broken arm) bolsters the secondary that features cornerbacks Gerald Small and William Judson and safeties Glenn and Lyle Blackwood.

Shula, concerned that Duhe's repaired knee may slow him down, made linebackers his draft priority, trading up to get Jackie Shipp of Oklahoma in the first round, then Jay Brophy of Miami U. in the second.

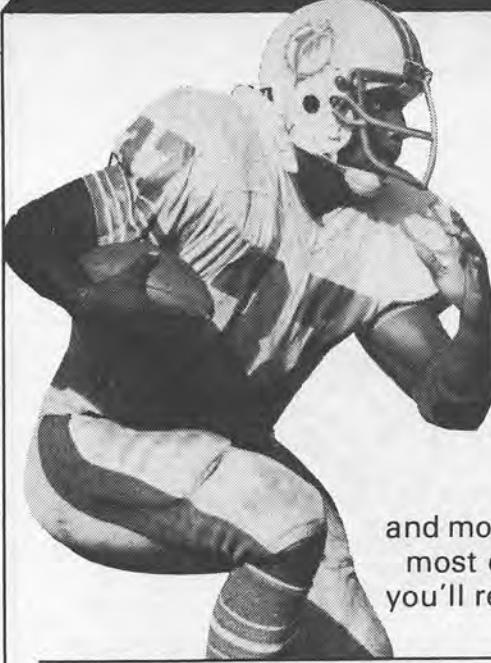
The Dolphins are well-protected on special teams. Fulton Walker led the NFL in kickoff returns, with a 26.7-yard average on 36 returns. After Vigorito was hurt in the opening game, Mark Clayton became the punt returner and averaged a respectable 9.6 yards, with one return for a touchdown. Reggie Roby averaged 43.1 yards as the rookie punter, although he was inconsistent at times. Uwe von Schamann did not have his usual sterling year as a place-kicker (18 for 27), but over the long run he's considered one of the league's best at what he does.

DOLPHINS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | NFL exp | age | college |
|----|---------------------|-----|------|-----|---------|-----|----------------|
| 70 | Barnett, Bill | DE | 6-4 | 250 | 5 | 28 | Nebraska |
| 73 | Baumhower, Bob | DT | 6-5 | 265 | 8 | 29 | Alabama |
| 34 | Bennett, Woody | RB | 6-2 | 222 | 7 | 29 | Miami |
| 78 | Benson, Charles | DE | 6-3 | 267 | 2 | 24 | Baylor |
| 75 | Betters, Doug | DE | 6-7 | 260 | 7 | 28 | Nevada-Reno |
| 47 | Blackwood, Glenn | S | 6-0 | 188 | 6 | 27 | Texas |
| 42 | Blackwood, Lyle | S | 6-1 | 195 | 12 | 33 | TCU |
| 58 | Bokamper, Kim | DE | 6-6 | 250 | 8 | 30 | San Jose St. |
| 56 | Bowser, Charles | LB | 6-3 | 232 | 3 | 25 | Duke |
| 51 | Brown, Mark | LB | 6-2 | 218 | 2 | 23 | Purdue |
| 59 | Brudzinski, Bob | LB | 6-4 | 229 | 8 | 29 | Ohio St. |
| 81 | Cefalo, Jimmy | WR | 5-11 | 188 | 6 | 28 | Penn St. |
| 71 | Charles, Mike | DT | 6-4 | 283 | 2 | 22 | Syracuse |
| 76 | Clark, Steve | DT | 6-4 | 255 | 3 | 24 | Utah |
| 83 | Clayton, Mark | WR | 5-9 | 172 | 2 | 23 | Louisville |
| 77 | Duhe, A.J. | LB | 6-4 | 240 | 8 | 29 | LSU |
| 85 | Duper, Mark | WR | 5-9 | 193 | 3 | 25 | NW Louisiana |
| 61 | Foster, Roy | OL | 6-4 | 272 | 3 | 24 | Southern Cal |
| 37 | Franklin, Andra | RB | 5-10 | 228 | 4 | 25 | Nebraska |
| 79 | Giesler, Jon | T | 6-5 | 260 | 6 | 28 | Michigan |
| 74 | Green, Cleveland | T | 6-3 | 262 | 6 | 27 | Southern |
| 84 | Hardy, Bruce | TE | 6-4 | 232 | 7 | 28 | Arizona |
| 88 | Hettlin, Vince | WR | 6-2 | 185 | 3 | 25 | Central St. |
| 53 | Hester, Ron | LB | 6-1 | 226 | 2 | 25 | Florida St. |
| 31 | Hill, Eddie | RB | 6-2 | 206 | 6 | 27 | Memphis St. |
| 11 | Jensen, Jim | WR | 6-4 | 215 | 4 | 26 | Boston U. |
| 87 | Johnson, Dan | TE | 6-3 | 240 | 3 | 24 | Iowa St. |
| 49 | Judson, William | CB | 6-1 | 187 | 3 | 25 | S.C. St. |
| 40 | Kozlowski, Mike | S | 6-0 | 198 | 5 | 28 | Colorado |
| 67 | Kuechenberg, Bob | G | 6-2 | 255 | 15 | 37 | Notre Dame |
| 68 | Laakso, Eric | T | 6-4 | 265 | 7 | 28 | Tulane |
| 44 | Lankford, Paul | CB | 6-1 | 182 | 3 | 26 | Penn St. |
| 13 | Marino, Dan | QB | 6-3 | 214 | 2 | 23 | Pittsburgh |
| 28 | McNeal, Don | CB | 5-11 | 192 | 4 | 26 | Alabama |
| 89 | Moore, Nat | WR | 5-9 | 188 | 11 | 33 | Florida |
| 22 | Nathan, Tony | RB | 6-0 | 206 | 6 | 28 | Alabama |
| 64 | Newman, Ed | G | 6-2 | 255 | 12 | 33 | Duke |
| 20 | Overstreet, David | RB | 5-11 | 208 | 2 | 26 | Oklahoma |
| 55 | Rhone, Ernest | LB | 6-2 | 224 | 9 | 31 | Henderson St. |
| 4 | Roby, Reggie | P | 6-2 | 243 | 2 | 23 | Iowa |
| 80 | Rose, Joe | TE | 6-3 | 230 | 5 | 27 | California |
| 78 | Shultz, Steve | LB | 6-1 | 224 | 4 | 26 | William & Mary |
| 48 | Small, Gerald | CB | 5-11 | 192 | 7 | 28 | San Jose St. |
| 45 | Sowell, Robert | DB | 5-11 | 175 | 2 | 23 | Howard |
| 57 | Stephenson, Dwight | C | 6-2 | 255 | 5 | 27 | Alabama |
| 10 | Strock, Don | QB | 6-5 | 220 | 11 | 34 | Virginia Tech |
| 52 | Tautolo, Terry | LB | 6-2 | 227 | 8 | 30 | UCLA |
| 54 | Thomas, Rodell | LB | 6-1 | 225 | 4 | 26 | Alabama St. |
| 52 | Tilley, Emmett | LB | 5-11 | 240 | 2 | 23 | Duke |
| 60 | Toews, Jeff | G | 6-3 | 255 | 6 | 27 | Washington |
| 32 | Vigorito, Tom | RB | 5-10 | 190 | 3 | 25 | Virginia |
| 5 | Von Schamann, Uwe K | QB | 6-0 | 188 | 6 | 28 | Oklahoma |
| 41 | Walker, Fulton | CB | 5-10 | 196 | 4 | 26 | West Virginia |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Ship, Jackie | LB | 6-3 | 235 | Oklahoma |
| 2 | Brophy, Jay | LB | 6-3 | 227 | Miami |
| 4 | Carter, Joe | RB | 5-11 | 198 | Alabama |
| 5 | May, Dean | QB | 6-5 | 220 | Louisville |
| 6 | Tatum, Rowland | LB | 6-1 | 236 | Ohio St. |
| 7 | Carvalho, Bernard | OG | 6-3 | 252 | Hawaii |
| 8 | Landry, Ronnie | RB | 6-1 | 221 | McNeese St. |
| 9 | Boyle, Jim | OT | 6-5 | 273 | Tulane |
| 10 | Chestey, John | TE | 6-5 | 225 | Oklahoma St. |
| 11 | Brown, Bud | DB | 6-0 | 187 | S. Mississippi |
| 12 | Devane, William | DT | 6-2 | 265 | Clemson |
| 12 | Weingrad, Mike | LB | 6-2 | 232 | Illinois |



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| Sports Service Name | Wins-Loss Record | % Won | Net Units |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------|-----------|
| MARGIN SPORTS | 33 - 6 | 84.6 | 26.4 |
| LINEMASTER | 35 - 11 | 76.0 | 22.9 |
| FIRST AND LAST SPORTS | 19 - 6 | 76.0 | 12.4 |
| VITAL STATS | 34 - 15 | 69.3 | 17.5 |
| HANDICAPPER | 23 - 11 | 67.6 | 10.9 |
| BIG GREEN SPORTS | 32 - 16 | 66.6 | 14.4 |
| SMW SPORTS | 28 - 14 | 66.6 | 12.6 |
| WEIGHTED EDGE | 27 - 14 | 65.8 | 11.6 |

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BUFFALO BILLS

Most of the preseason prophets of a year ago saw no more than five or six victories for the Buffalo Bills, shorn of their outstanding coach, Chuck Knox, who was replaced by Kay Stephenson, an unknown. Stephenson did such a good job with a weakened team—finishing with an 8-8 record after battling for the division lead most of the season—that he's going to get a chance to see what he can do with a much weaker team. The Bills, at least their offense, aren't even close to the team which opened last season.

Non-exhibit A is Joe Cribbs, easily the team's most valuable player, who now is the star for the Birmingham Stallions of the USFL.

Non-exhibit B is Jerry Butler, who suffered a freak knee injury at midseason and won't be able to play at least until early November, possibly not at all. Butler, a classy Pro Bowl wide receiver, was the Bills' best deep threat.

Non-exhibit C is Frank Lewis, another one-time Pro Bowl wide receiver who retired after a couple of injury-filled years.

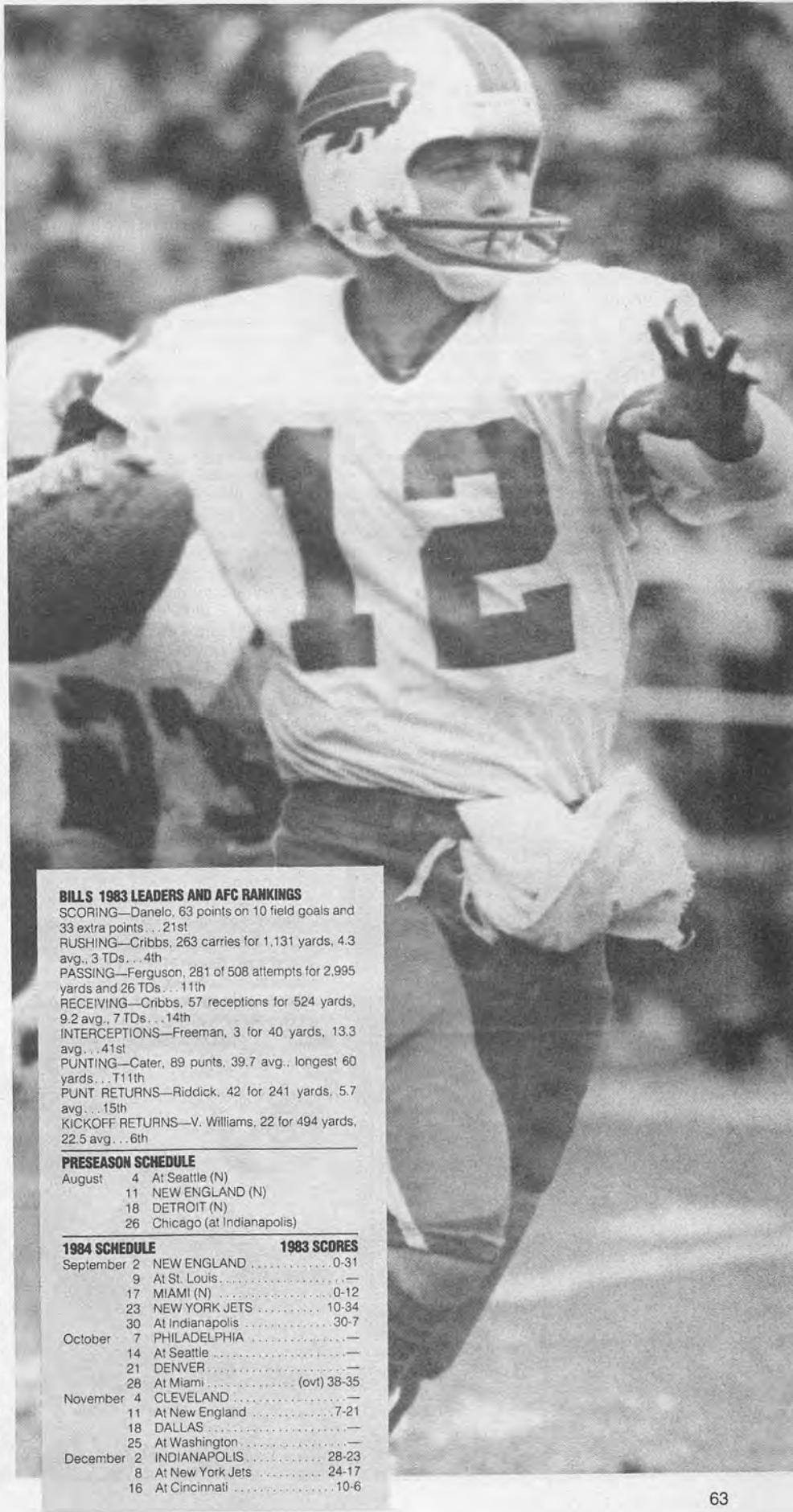
A large question mark surrounds Mike Mosely, the young receiver who was best equipped to replace Butler. He also suffered a knee injury last season.

An even larger question mark hovers above veteran quarterback Joe Ferguson, but it has nothing to do with knee injuries. Ferguson had a classic peaks-and-valleys season, but most of his valleys came in the stretch run when he put on a festival of interceptions, finishing the season with 25. He threw for 26 touchdowns. The New England safeties intercepted him five times in Buffalo's two losses in three weeks to the Patriots. The Rams intercepted him five times in their one-sided victory. San Francisco killed Buffalo's bid with two second-half interceptions. At age 34 and after 11 years as the starting quarterback with up-and-down results, Ferguson may be at the crossroads of his career.

The Bills drafted Miami's Jim Kelly as a probable successor to Ferguson last year, but Kelly signed with the Houston Gamblers of the USFL. That leaves Stephenson with one other alternative, Matt Kofler, whom the Bills drafted in the second round in 1982. Kofler was given a thorough shot in last year's exhibition season, but showed little until the final summer game. He did capture the fans' imagination with a sterling relief job against the Los Angeles Raiders, bringing the Bills from a three-touchdown deficit to a 24-24 tie in the fourth quarter. (Los Angeles finally pulled it out on its last possession.) Even if Kofler doesn't challenge Ferguson for the starting job, it's probable that Stephenson will call him from the bullpen more often than he has in the past.

Stephenson's foremost dilemma is how to replace Cribbs. He can try a hybrid of Van Williams, Roland Hooks, and Rob Riddick. Williams carried the ball three times, Riddick four, and Hooks, hurt all season, not at all. Or he can use the one-back formation with Booker Moore, the second-ranking ball carrier, as the lone back. Cribbs gained 1,131 yards last

Quarterback Joe Ferguson starts his twelfth year with the Bills.

**BILLS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS**

SCORING—Danelo, 63 points on 10 field goals and 33 extra points...21st.
 RUSHING—Cribbs, 263 carries for 1,131 yards, 4.3 avg., 3 TDs...4th.
 PASSING—Ferguson, 281 of 508 attempts for 2,995 yards and 26 TDs...11th.
 RECEIVING—Cribbs, 57 receptions for 524 yards, 9.2 avg., 7 TDs...14th.
 INTERCEPTIONS—Freeman, 3 for 40 yards, 13.3 avg...41st.
 PUNTING—Cater, 89 punts, 39.7 avg., longest 60 yards...T11th.
 PUNT RETURNS—Riddick, 42 for 241 yards, 5.7 avg...15th.
 KICKOFF RETURNS—V. Williams, 22 for 494 yards, 22.5 avg...6th.

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|---------------------------|
| August | 4 | At Seattle (N) |
| | 11 | NEW ENGLAND (N) |
| | 18 | DETROIT (N) |
| | 26 | Chicago (at Indianapolis) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|----|------------------------------|
| September | 2 | NEW ENGLAND 0-31 |
| | 9 | At St. Louis — |
| | 17 | MIAMI (N) 0-12 |
| | 23 | NEW YORK JETS 10-34 |
| | 30 | At Indianapolis 30-7 |
| October | 7 | PHILADELPHIA — |
| | 14 | At Seattle — |
| | 21 | DENVER — |
| | 28 | At Miami (ovt) 38-35 |
| November | 4 | CLEVELAND — |
| | 11 | At New England 7-21 |
| | 18 | DALLAS — |
| | 25 | At Washington — |
| December | 2 | INDIANAPOLIS 28-23 |
| | 8 | At New York Jets 24-17 |
| | 16 | At Cincinnati 10-6 |

year, and it was a long way back to No. 2. Moore gained just 275. Buffalo scored only four touchdowns on the ground and finished 24th in the NFL in rushing. The Bills took a stab in the draft, selecting Greg Bell, Notre Dame's often-injured halfback, as a potential replacement for Cribbs.

Stephenson also may have to play a double-tight-end setup much of the time. Tony Hunter was the league's top rookie at the position, with 36 catches and three touchdowns. He has Ozzie-Newsome-type ability. The other tight end is ex-starter Mark Brammer, who caught 25 balls and scored twice before being injured late in the season.

The wide-receiver picture could be brightened by speedy Byron Franklin, who numbered four touchdowns among his 30 catches, and Perry Tuttle, who never has justified his status as a No. 1 draftee. He caught 17 passes and scored three times. In the second round of the draft the Bills picked San Jose State's Eric Richardson.

The Bills have a skilled if undersized line. Usually one of the better pass-protection teams, Buffalo allowed 37 sacks last year, but that was due mostly to pair of alterations in the offensive line. Jim Ritcher moved into left guard and Justin Cross replaced Joe Devlin,

who suffered a broken ankle in the preseason. Devlin, the team's best blocker, probably will move to guard to challenge Jon Borchardt, who had replaced the departed Reggie McKenzie. The move is caused by the development of Cross, who at 6-6 and 265 pounds has the size the Bills need. Ken Jones remains at left tackle and Will Grant at center.

Defensively, the Bills should be better, mainly because of the return of their injured. The new linebacking setup of Lucious Sanford and Darryl Talley on the outside and Eugene Marve and Jim Haslett on the inside gives the Bills their most strength at that area in many years. Haslett missed almost the entire season, but he returned in the finale and hit just about everything that moved. Marve led the team in tackles, 35 ahead of the next man. He was even more spectacular than he was as a rookie starter. Talley did not start last season, for which the Bills' defensive coaches were criticized. He was drafted as a big-play linebacker, and he made the big plays. He was the third-ranked sacker, with five.

Nose tackle Fred Smerlas made the Pro Bowl for the third consecutive season. He is an all-out player who should be all the more effective with the return of Haslett. Left end Ben Williams didn't make the Pro Bowl, as he did in '83, but he did lead the Bills with ten sacks. The right-end job is up in the air. Sherman White, hurt for the last half of the season, may be through. Ken Johnson played when White got hurt, but he didn't play very well. One replacement possibility is ex-Georgia star Jimmy Payne, who spent his rookie season on the injured list.

The Bills lost a half dozen free safeties to injury last year. Most of those are back and healed. Rod Kush probably will regain his starting job, which will allow Steve Freeman to move back to strong safety. Jeff Nixon, who sat out 1983 while his knee healed, is said to be in his best shape since 1980, when he was among the league's interception leaders. He'll probably be the nickel back. Lenny Walterscheid also will play after his knee injury. Charles Romes is a dependable corner, but

he could be challenged by Rodney Bellinger of the national champion Miami Hurricanes. Veteran Mario Clark, who hasn't had an interception since 1982, plays across from him.

The Bills had their usual sour experiences with place-kickers. Joe Danelo, the ex-Giant, finished with the job, but he kicked only 10 of 20 field goals. Greg Cater averaged just 39.7 yards as the punter, but 24 of his kicks were downed inside the 20-yard line. He'll be pushed by Northwestern's John Kidd.

BILLS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----|---------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| 75 | Acker, Bill | NT | 6-3 | 255 | 5 | 28 | Texas |
| 84 | Barnett, Buster | TE | 6-5 | 235 | 4 | 26 | Jackson St. |
| 73 | Borchardt, Jon | G | 6-5 | 255 | 6 | 27 | Montana St. |
| 86 | Brammer, Mark | TE | 6-3 | 235 | 5 | 26 | Michigan St. |
| 80 | Butler, Jerry | WR | 6-0 | 180 | 6 | 21 | Clemson |
| 67 | Caldwell, Darryl | T | 6-5 | 245 | 2 | 24 | Tennessee St. |
| 7 | Cater, Greg | P | 6-0 | 191 | 5 | 27 | Tenn-Chatt. |
| 29 | Mario Clark | CB | 6-2 | 195 | 9 | 30 | Oregon |
| 63 | Cross, Justin | T | 6-6 | 265 | 3 | 25 | Western St. |
| 18 | Danelo, Joe | K | 5-9 | 166 | 10 | 31 | Washington St. |
| 89 | Dawkins, Julius | WR | 6-1 | 196 | 2 | 23 | Pittsburgh |
| 70 | Devlin, Joe | T | 6-5 | 250 | 8 | 30 | Iowa |
| 19 | Dufek, Joe | DB | 6-4 | 215 | 2 | 23 | Yale |
| 12 | Ferguson, Joe | QB | 6-1 | 195 | 12 | 34 | Arkansas |
| 28 | Flint, Judson | S | 6-0 | 201 | 4 | 27 | Memphis St. |
| 85 | Franklin, Byron | WR | 6-1 | 179 | 4 | 26 | Auburn |
| 22 | Freeman, Steve | S | 5-11 | 185 | 10 | 31 | Miss. St. |
| 53 | Grant, Will | C | 6-4 | 248 | 7 | 30 | Kentucky |
| 55 | Haslett, Jim | LB | 6-3 | 232 | 6 | 28 | Indiana (PA) |
| 49 | Holt, Robert | WR | 6-1 | 182 | 2 | 25 | Baylor |
| 25 | Hooks, Roland | RB | 6-0 | 195 | 8 | 31 | N.C. St. |
| 87 | Hunter, Tony | TE | 6-3 | 237 | 2 | 24 | Notre Dame |
| 28 | Hurley, Bill | S | 5-11 | 185 | 3 | 27 | Syracuse |
| 90 | Hutchinson, Scott | DE | 6-4 | 255 | 6 | 28 | Florida |
| 91 | Johnson, Ken | DE | 6-5 | 253 | 6 | 29 | Knoxville |
| 72 | Jones, Ken | T | 6-5 | 256 | 9 | 32 | Arkansas St. |
| 50 | Junkin, Trey | LB | 6-2 | 221 | 2 | 23 | La. Tech |
| 52 | Keating, Chris | LB | 6-2 | 223 | 6 | 27 | Maine |
| 21 | Kennedy, Mike | S | 6-0 | 195 | 2 | 25 | Toledo |
| 43 | Kilsen, David | CB | 6-1 | 200 | 2 | 23 | Nevada-Reno |
| 10 | Koller, Matt | QB | 6-3 | 192 | 3 | 25 | San Diego St. |
| 42 | Kush, Rod | S | 6-0 | 188 | 5 | 28 | Neb.-Omaha |
| 48 | Leaks, Roosevelt | RB | 5-10 | 225 | 10 | 31 | Texas |
| 59 | Lumpkin, Joey | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 3 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 61 | Lynch, Tom | G | 6-5 | 250 | 8 | 29 | Boston College |
| 54 | Marve, Eugene | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 3 | 24 | Saginaw Valley |
| 58 | Merrill, Mark | LB | 6-3 | 234 | 6 | 29 | Minnesota |
| 34 | Moore, Booker | RB | 5-11 | 224 | 3 | 25 | Penn St. |
| 88 | Mosley, Mike | WR | 6-2 | 192 | 3 | 26 | Texas A&M |
| 38 | Nixon, Jeff | S | 6-3 | 190 | 5 | 28 | Richmond |
| 62 | Parker, Ervin | LB | 6-5 | 240 | 5 | 26 | S.C. St. |
| 40 | Riddick, Robb | RB | 6-0 | 195 | 3 | 27 | Millersville |
| 51 | Ritcher, Jim | G | 6-3 | 251 | 5 | 26 | N.C. St. |
| 26 | Romes, Charles | CB | 6-1 | 190 | 8 | 30 | N.C. Central |
| 99 | Roopenian, Mark | NT | 6-5 | 254 | 3 | 26 | Boston College |
| 57 | Sanford, Lucius | LB | 6-2 | 216 | 7 | 28 | Georgia Tech |
| 76 | Smerlas, Fred | NT | 6-3 | 270 | 6 | 27 | Boston College |
| 56 | Talley, Darryl | LB | 6-3 | 231 | 2 | 24 | West Virginia |
| | Taylor, Roger | T | 6-6 | 275 | 2 | 26 | Oklahoma St. |
| 24 | Thompson, Gary | CB | 6-0 | 180 | 2 | 25 | Redwoods |
| 81 | Tuttle, Perry | WR | 6-0 | 178 | 3 | 25 | Clemson |
| 41 | Villapiano, Phil | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 14 | 35 | Bowling Green |
| 93 | Virkus, Scott | DE | 6-5 | 248 | 2 | 25 | S. F. City Coll. |
| 65 | Vogler, Tim | OL | 6-3 | 245 | 6 | 28 | Ohio St. |
| 45 | Walterscheid, Lenny | S | 5-11 | 190 | 8 | 30 | S. Utah St. |
| 83 | White, Sherman | DE | 6-5 | 250 | 13 | 36 | California |
| 77 | Williams, Ben | DE | 6-3 | 245 | 9 | 30 | Mississippi |
| 27 | Williams, Chris | CB | 6-0 | 197 | 3 | 25 | LSU |
| 23 | Williams, Van | RB | 6-0 | 208 | 2 | 25 | Carson-New. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|-----------------|
| 1 | Bell, Greg | RB | 5-10 | 210 | Notre Dame |
| 2 | Richardson, Eric | WR | 6-1 | 183 | San Jose St. |
| 3 | Bellinger, Rodney | DB | 5-8 | 181 | Miami |
| 3 | McNamee, Sean | DE | 6-5 | 252 | San Diego St. |
| 3 | Neal, Speedy | RB | 6-2 | 254 | Miami |
| 4 | Brookins, Mitchell | WR | 5-11 | 196 | Illinois |
| 5 | Kidd, John | P | 6-3 | 201 | Northwestern |
| 6 | Slaton, Tony | C | 6-3 | 269 | Southern Cal |
| 7 | David, Stan | DB | 6-3 | 210 | Texas Tech |
| 8 | Payfield, Stacy | DB | 6-1 | 201 | Arlington |
| 9 | Howell, Leroy | DE | 6-4 | 235 | Appalachian St. |
| 10 | Azelby, Joe | LB | 6-1 | 225 | Harvard |
| 11 | White, Craig | WR | 6-1 | 194 | Missouri |
| 12 | Davis, Russell | WR | 6-4 | 217 | Maryland |



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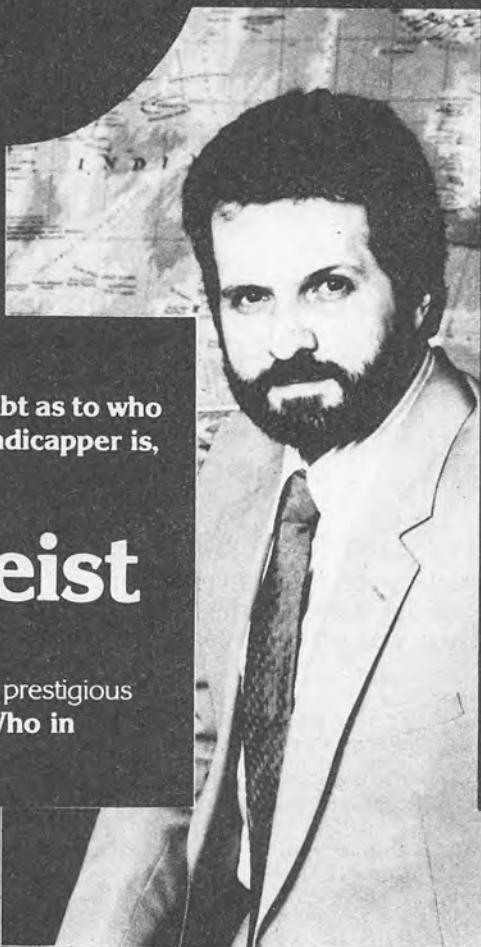
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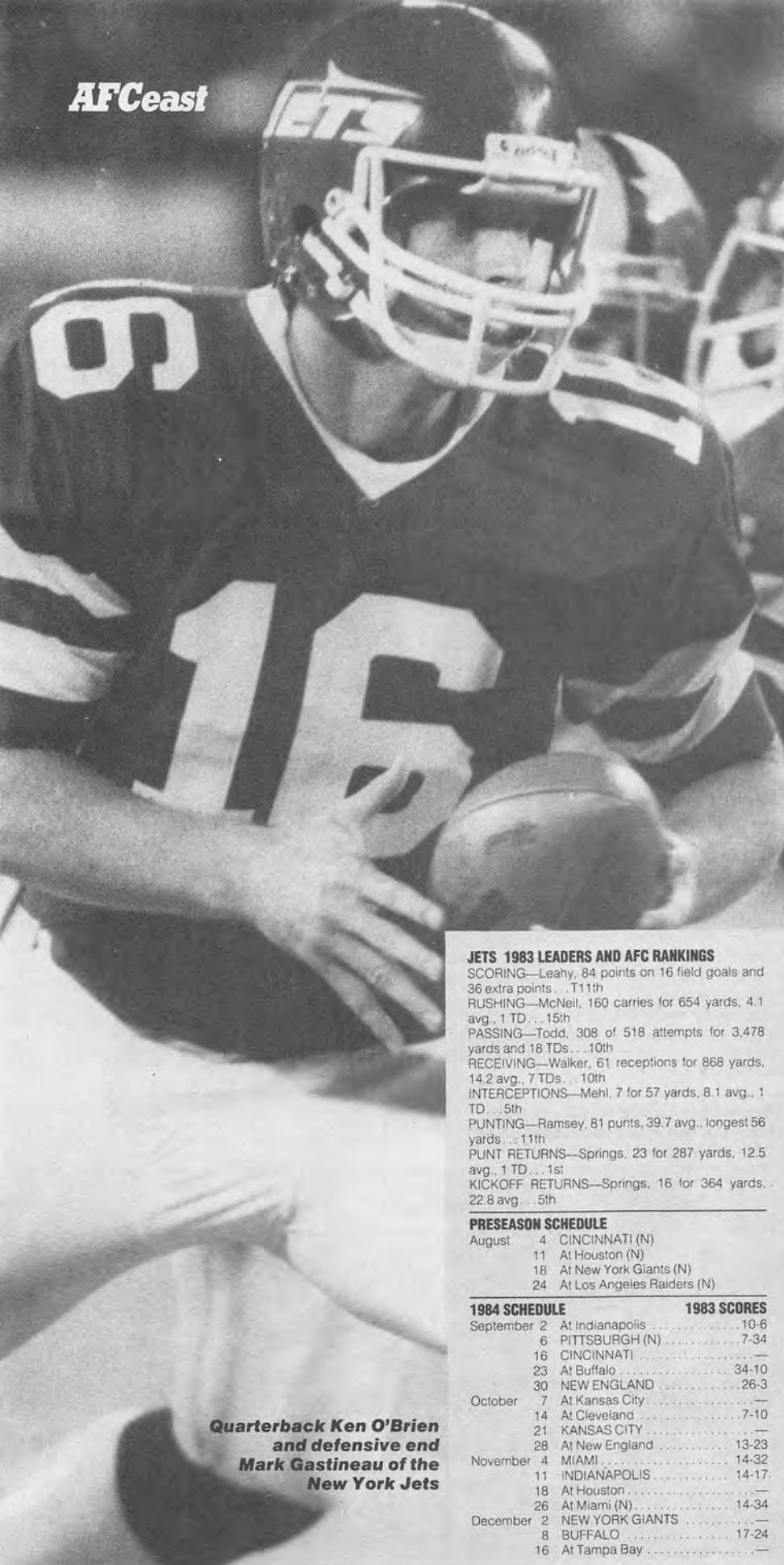
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Quarterback Ken O'Brien and defensive end Mark Gastineau of the New York Jets

JETS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Leahy, 84 points on 16 field goals and 36 extra points...T11th

RUSHING—McNeil, 160 carries for 654 yards, 4.1 avg., 1 TD...15th

PASSING—Todd, 308 of 518 attempts for 3,478 yards and 18 TDs...10th

RECEIVING—Walker, 61 receptions for 868 yards, 14.2 avg., 7 TDs...10th

INTERCEPTIONS—Mehl, 7 for 57 yards, 8.1 avg., 1 TD...5th

PUNTING—Ramsey, 81 punts, 39.7 avg., longest 56 yards...11th

PUNT RETURNS—Springs, 23 for 287 yards, 12.5 avg., 1 TD...1st

KICKOFF RETURNS—Springs, 16 for 364 yards, 22.8 avg...5th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|----------------------------|
| August | 4 | CINCINNATI (N) |
| | 11 | At Houston (N) |
| | 18 | At New York Giants (N) |
| | 24 | At Los Angeles Raiders (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|-----------|----|-----------------|-------|
| September | 2 | At Indianapolis | 10-6 |
| | 6 | PITTSBURGH (N) | 7-34 |
| | 16 | CINCINNATI | — |
| | 23 | At Buffalo | 34-10 |
| | 30 | NEW ENGLAND | 26-3 |
| October | 7 | At Kansas City | — |
| | 14 | At Cleveland | 7-10 |
| | 21 | KANSAS CITY | — |
| | 28 | At New England | 13-23 |
| November | 4 | MIAMI | 14-32 |
| | 11 | INDIANAPOLIS | 14-17 |
| | 18 | At Houston | — |
| | 26 | At Miami (N) | 14-34 |
| December | 2 | NEW YORK GIANTS | — |
| | 8 | BUFFALO | 17-24 |
| | 16 | At Tampa Bay | — |

1983 SCORES

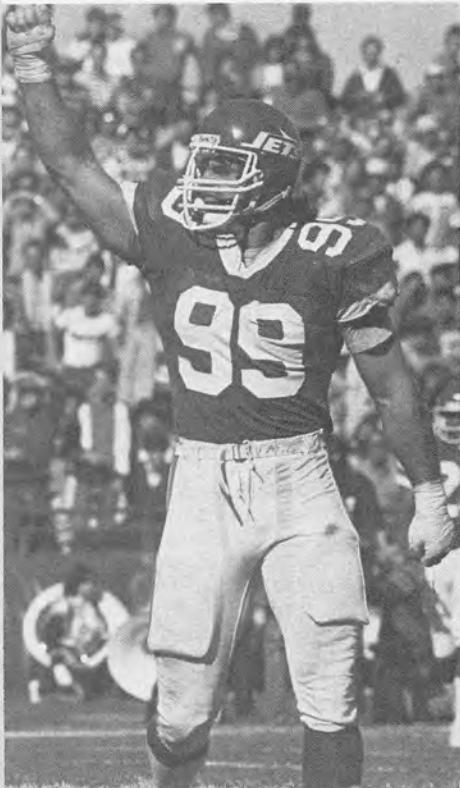
NEW YORK JETS

Talk about radical changes in philosophy. A year ago the Jets spoke of themselves as a Super Bowl team. Today they are virtually starting over. There is a strong feeling around the NFL that the Jets ran an off-tackle play directly into the panic button.

Panic or not, the Richard Todd era in New York is over. Ken O'Brien is the future, but Pat Ryan may be the present. The deal for Todd was the strangest twist of all in the Jets' amazing turnaround. Richard was sent to New Orleans for a first-round draft choice, which seems a bargain price for the Saints in this inflated market for quarterbacks. His 26 interceptions were part of the move, but an even bigger part was the quarterback's alienation from coach Joe Walton, who had been his confidant in 1982 when the Jets reached the American Conference championship game.

O'Brien was the team's first-round draft choice in the Year of the Quarterbacks. The Jets passed up Dan Marino, who became the AFC's rookie of the year and the Pro Bowl starter after the Miami Dolphins made him their starting quarterback early in October. O'Brien hasn't taken a snap from center yet. The University of California at Davis is not well-known for producing first-round draft choices, much less first-round quarterbacks who are equipped to step into an NFL starting lineup without a long apprenticeship. Ryan has never started an NFL game. He threw 40 passes last season in a relief role, more than twice as much work as he got in five previous pro seasons. Ryan never even won the No. 1 quarterback job as a collegian at Tennessee.

Walton, obviously, is rolling the dice. And it's not just with the quarterback position. After last season, the Jets dealt two veteran defensive linemen, Kenny Neil and Abdul Salaam, to the San Diego Chargers for a second-round draft choice. Salaam was a long-time starter





at left tackle until he suffered a rotator cuff injury. Neil finished last season as the starting right end. Even worse, Ben Rudolph, the man counted upon to move into the starting lineup, revealed shortly after the trade that he had signed a future contract with the Los Angeles Express of the USFL starting in 1985. In other words, whether Rudolph starts at end or tackle for the Jets this season, he'll be a lame duck. The irony is that the Express signed Rudolph with the money it received from the Jets, who bought back Johnny Lynn. Lynn will be needed to compensate for the loss of starting left corner Jerry Holmes, now with the USFL's Pittsburgh Maulers. The Jets also lost reserve Jesse Johnson to the USFL.

The Jets used the draft to ease their defensive losses. The first of their two first-round selections, SMU defensive back Russell Carter, may be an improvement on Holmes. The second, Arkansas defensive end Ron Faurot, could quickly become a new member of the Sack Exchange.

Offensively, the burden may shift to the Jets' running game, with Freeman McNeil. He gained 654 yards in an injury-plagued season. The second-leading ground gainer, Dwayne Crutchfield, was purged and ended up in Houston. Bruce Harper, the third-down specialist, may become more important than ever. Cedric Minter, down from the CFL, Mike Augustyniak, and Marion Barber should battle for the job next to McNeil.

The Jets still have the home-run receivers, Wesley Walker and Lam Jones. They are as fast and as inconsistent as ever. Walker led the team with 61 receptions and 17 touchdowns. Jones caught 43 passes for a 17.1-yard average and four TDs. Mickey Shuler will contend with rookie Glenn Dennison of Miami for the tight-end job.

One of the most disappointing aspects of the Jets' 7-9 season last year was a decline of its much-ballyhooed offensive line. Marvin Powell, several times an all-pro tackle, had his worst season. Chris Ward, the other tackle, still hasn't approached his potential, and left guard Stan Waldemore was hurt. Dan Alexander, the right guard, had a fair year, but Joe Fields, the center, was the only Jet offensive lineman who performed up to his billing.

Defensively, there may be more changes than just the end to Mark Gastineau's victory dance. The NFL rules committee ended the most extreme forms of Gastineau's post-sack demonstrations. He led the NFL with 19 sacks and made the Pro Bowl. Joe Klecko was stationed at left tackle when the season ended, partly because Neil did not have the heft to

play inside. Now, with Rudolph in the lineup, Klecko may move back to end. Marty Lyons is a fixture at right tackle.

The departure of Neil and Salaam leaves the line very understaffed, especially considering the past injury history of Klecko and Lyons. Barry Bennett, the foremost reserve, has only sketchy experience.

Bob Crable begins his first full term as the starting middle linebacker. Stan Blinka, who began the season there in '83, was traded to Denver. The Jets also need a big return from Greg Buttle at left linebacker. He missed more than half the season with injuries. Lance Mehl led the team in interceptions, with seven, and in tackles, with 205. John Woodring, a hitter, can fill in on the outside, as he did for Buttle, and at middle linebacker. He also had 21 special-teams tackles, just one behind team leader Marion Barber.

Lynn provides security and depth in the secondary. Bobby Jackson stays at right corner. Ken Schroy is a dependable strong safety, an underrated player, but Darrol Ray had a sub-par season at free safety. Kirk Springs not only backs up both safeties but led the AFC in punt returning, with a 12.5-yard average, and finished among the league leaders in kickoff returns. He also had a dozen tackles on the coverage teams.

Pat Leahy had a routine year, kicking 16 of 24 field goals. Chuck Ramsey averaged 39.7 yards on 81 punts, with 17 ending up inside the 20-yard line.

Linebacker Lance Mehl (above) stops the run and Freeman McNeil (#24) provides it for the Jets.



JETS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | NFL exp | age | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|---------|-----|------------------|
| 60 | Alexander, Dan | G | 6-4 | 260 | 8 | 29 | LSU |
| 35 | Augustyniak, Mike | RB | 5-11 | 226 | 4 | 28 | Purdue |
| 31 | Barber, Marion | RB | 6-3 | 224 | 3 | 25 | Minnesota |
| 78 | Bennett, Barry | DL | 6-4 | 257 | 7 | 29 | Concordia |
| 64 | Bingham, Guy | OL | 6-3 | 255 | 5 | 26 | Montana |
| 89 | Brown, Preston | WR | 5-11 | 187 | 4 | 26 | Vanderbilt |
| 86 | Bruckner, Nick | WR | 5-11 | 185 | 2 | 23 | Syracuse |
| 51 | Buttle, Greg | LB | 6-3 | 232 | 9 | 30 | Penn St. |
| 88 | Coombs, Tom | TE | 6-3 | 227 | 3 | 25 | Idaho |
| 50 | Crable, Bob | LB | 6-3 | 232 | 3 | 25 | Notre Dame |
| 52 | Eliopoulos, Jim | LB | 6-2 | 229 | 2 | 25 | Wyoming |
| 65 | Fields, Joe | C | 6-2 | 253 | 10 | 31 | Widener |
| 38 | Floyd, George | DB | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | 24 | E. Kentucky |
| 81 | Gaffney, Derrick | WR | 6-1 | 182 | 7 | 29 | Florida |
| 99 | Gastineau, Mark | DE | 6-5 | 265 | 6 | 28 | E. Central Okla. |
| 94 | Gulfbeau, Rusty | DE | 6-4 | 260 | 3 | 26 | McNeese St. |
| 42 | Harper, Bruce | RB | 5-8 | 177 | 8 | 29 | Kutztown |
| 34 | Hector, Johnny | RB | 5-11 | 197 | 2 | 24 | Texas A&M |
| 40 | Jackson, Bobby | CB | 5-10 | 180 | 7 | 28 | Florida St. |
| 80 | Jones, Lam | WR | 5-11 | 180 | 5 | 26 | Texas |
| 73 | Klecko, Joe | DL | 6-3 | 263 | 8 | 31 | Temple |
| 30 | Klever, Rocky | RB | 6-3 | 225 | 2 | 25 | Montana |
| 5 | Leahy, Pat | K | 6-0 | 189 | 11 | 33 | St. Louis |
| 22 | Lewis, Kenny | RB | 6-0 | 196 | 4 | 27 | Virginia Tech |
| 59 | Lilja, George | C | 6-4 | 250 | 3 | 26 | Michigan |
| 71 | Luscinski, Jim | OL | 6-5 | 275 | 2 | 26 | Norwich |
| 29 | Lynn, Johnny | DB | 6-0 | 198 | 5 | 28 | UCLA |
| 93 | Lyons, Marty | DT | 6-5 | 265 | 6 | 27 | Alabama |
| 68 | McElroy, Reggie | T | 6-6 | 270 | 2 | 24 | West Texas St. |
| 24 | McNeil, Freeman | RB | 5-11 | 218 | 4 | 25 | UCLA |
| 56 | Mehl, Lance | LB | 6-3 | 233 | 5 | 26 | Penn State |
| 20 | Mullen, Davlin | DB | 6-1 | 177 | 2 | 24 | W. Kentucky |
| 7 | O'Brien, Ken | QB | 6-4 | 210 | 2 | 24 | Cal-Davis |
| 62 | Pellegrini, Joe | OL | 6-4 | 252 | 3 | 27 | Harvard |
| 79 | Powell, Marvin | T | 6-5 | 260 | 8 | 29 | Southern Cal |
| 15 | Ramsey, Chuck | P | 6-2 | 189 | 8 | 32 | Wake Forest |
| 28 | Ray, Darrol | S | 6-1 | 198 | 5 | 26 | Oklahoma |
| 76 | Rudolph, Ben | DL | 6-5 | 266 | 4 | 27 | Long Beach St. |
| 10 | Ryan, Pat | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 7 | 29 | Tennessee |
| 48 | Schroy, Ken | S | 6-2 | 198 | 8 | 32 | Maryland |
| 82 | Shuler, Mickey | TE | 6-3 | 231 | 7 | 28 | Penn St. |
| 87 | Sohn, Kurt | WR | 5-11 | 180 | 3 | 28 | Fordham |
| 21 | Springs, Kirk | DB | 6-0 | 192 | 4 | 26 | Miami (OH) |
| 70 | Waldemore, Stan | OL | 6-4 | 269 | 7 | 29 | Nebraska |
| 85 | Walker, Wesley | WR | 6-0 | 179 | 8 | 29 | Nebraska |
| 72 | Ward, Chris | T | 6-3 | 269 | 7 | 29 | Ohio St. |
| 57 | Woodring, John | LB | 6-2 | 232 | 4 | 25 | Brown |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-----------------|-----|------|-----|---------------|
| 1 | Carter, Russell | DB | 6-2 | 193 | SMU |
| 1 | Faurot, Ron | DE | 6-8 | 255 | Arkansas |
| 2 | Sweeney, Jim | C | 6-3 | 250 | Pittsburgh |
| 2 | Dennison, Glenn | TE | 6-3 | 220 | Miami |
| 3 | Clifton, Kyle | LB | 6-2 | 220 | TCU |
| 4 | Bell, Bobby | LB | 6-3 | 220 | Missouri |
| 5 | Armstrong, Tron | WR | 6-1 | 198 | E. Kentucky |
| 6 | Paige, Tony | RB | 5-10 | 225 | Virginia Tech |
| 7 | Hamilton, Harry | DB | 5-11 | 191 | Penn St. |
| 8 | Griggs, Billy | TE | 6-3 | 229 | Virginia |
| 8 | Wright, Brett | P | 6-0 | 175 | SE Louisiana |
| 9 | Baldwin, Tom | DT | 6-4 | 255 | Tulsa |
| 10 | Cone, Ronny | RB | 6-2 | 230 | Georgia Tech |
| 11 | Martin, Dan | OT | 6-5 | 274 | Iowa St. |
| 12 | Roberson, David | WR | 6-0 | 186 | Houston |

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INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Indianapolis fans must be wondering which Colts they are getting. Is it the team which won six of its first ten games last year? Or is it the Colts who lost five of their last six?

Chances are the fans won't get a true reading until the third game of the season. In their first two games, the Colts play against two quarterbacks who never took a snap in the NFL: Ken O'Brien of the New York Jets and Warren Moon of the Houston Oilers. Inexperienced quarterbacks are the sort of meat the risk-taking, blitzing Colt defense thrives on.

It's after that the fans should be able to assess the '84 Colts more clearly. In Game 3 they face improving St. Louis, which won five of its last six and scored 34 points on the Super Bowl champion Los Angeles Raiders. In Game 4 the foe is Miami, victors of the AFC East, who gave up just seven points to the Colts in two games, both Dolphin victories, last year. In Game 5 it's Buffalo, which scored 58 points in two victories over the Colts last year. Then, in Game 6, it's the high-powered Redskins, propelled by the fervent best wishes of their Baltimore neighbors whom Colts' owner Robert Irsay forsook.

But no matter the opponent or the city, the character of the Colts' offense remains intact. They are a running team. If Indy is going anywhere in its maiden NFL season, it will be Curtis Dickey and Randy McMillan who lead the attack. They ran for almost 2,000 yards last season. Dickey gained 1,122, a 4.4-yard aver-

age. McMillan accounted for 802 yards and a 4.1-yard average. Baltimore didn't have a pass receiver in the top 20 in the AFC, but Dickey is one of the league's more dangerous pass-catching backs.

Frank Kush suddenly shifted quarterback gears when the team snuck out of Baltimore and into Indianapolis in the dead of night. The coach gave the job to Mark Herrmann a few days after the move, even though Herrmann hasn't thrown a Colt touchdown pass yet and has completed only 18 of 36 passes for 256 yards in his single, injury-plagued year with the team. The switch was a transparently political move. (Herrmann was a star at Purdue, an Indiana school.) Then again, the Colts don't have much to lose, even though incumbent quarterback Mike Pagel threw for 2,353 yards and 12 touchdowns. The Colts still finished last in NFL passing.

COLTS 1983 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Allegre, 112 points on 30 field goals and 22 extra points...4th

RUSHING—Dickey, 254 carries for 1,122 yards, 4.4 avg., 4 TDs...5th

PASSING—Pagel, 163 of 328 attempts for 2,353 yards and 12 TDs...13th

RECEIVING—Henry, 30 receptions for 416 yards, 13.9 avg., 4 TDs...50th

INTERCEPTIONS—Hatchett, 4 for 36 yards, 9.0 avg...29th

PUNTING—Stark, 91 punts, 45.3 avg., longest 68 yards...1st

PUNT RETURNS—L. Anderson, 20 for 138 yards, 6.9 avg...14th

KICKOFF RETURNS—K. Williams, 20 for 490 yards, 24.5 avg...3rd

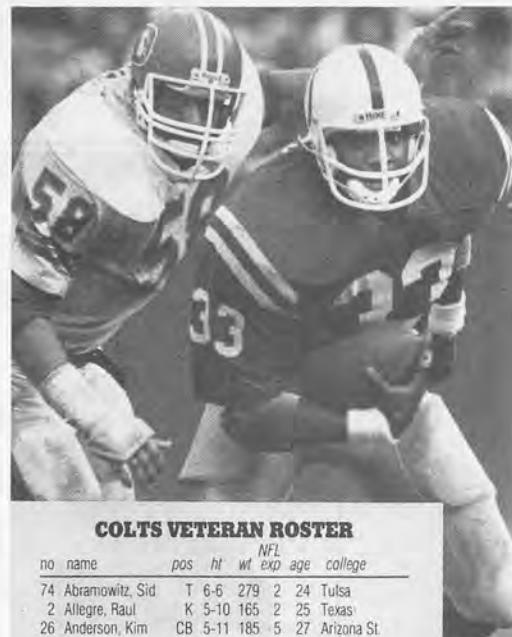
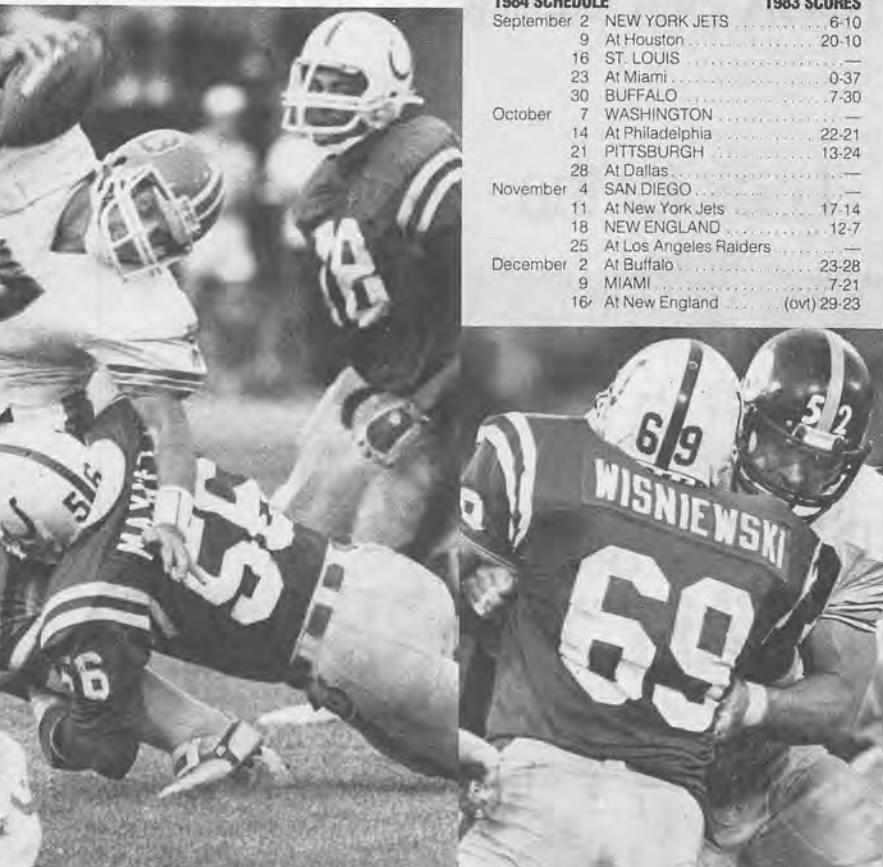
PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 4 At Miami (N)
11 NEW YORK GIANTS (N)
18 At Denver (N)
25 At Green Bay (N)

1984 SCHEDULE

| | 1983 SCORES |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| September 2 NEW YORK JETS | 6-10 |
| 9 At Houston | 20-10 |
| 16 ST. LOUIS | — |
| 23 At Miami | 0-37 |
| 30 BUFFALO | 7-30 |
| October 7 WASHINGTON | — |
| 14 At Philadelphia | 22-21 |
| 21 PITTSBURGH | 13-24 |
| 28 At Dallas | — |
| November 4 SAN DIEGO | — |
| 11 At New York Jets | 17-14 |
| 18 NEW ENGLAND | 12-7 |
| 25 At Los Angeles Raiders | — |
| December 2 At Buffalo | 23-28 |
| 9 MIAMI | 7-21 |
| 16 At New England | (ovt) 29-23 |

Linebacker Vernon Maxwell (below), nose tackle Leo Wisniewski, running backs Curtis Dickey (#33) and Randy McMillan (#32), and quarterback Mike Pagel of Indianapolis



COLTS VETERAN ROSTER

| no | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----|---------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 74 | Abramowitz, Sid | T | 6-6 | 279 | 2 | 24 | Tulsa |
| 2 | Allegre, Raul | K | 5-10 | 165 | 2 | 25 | Texas |
| 26 | Anderson, Kim | CB | 5-11 | 185 | 5 | 27 | Arizona St. |
| 30 | Anderson, Larry | S | 6-1 | 192 | 7 | 28 | La. Tech |
| 72 | Baldischwiler, Karl | T | 6-5 | 265 | 7 | 28 | Oklahoma |
| 97 | Ballard, Quinton | NT | 6-3 | 276 | 2 | 24 | Elon |
| 81 | Beach, Pat | TE | 6-4 | 240 | 3 | 25 | Washington St. |
| 90 | Bell, Mark E | DE | 6-5 | 235 | 5 | 27 | Colorado St. |
| 85 | Bouza, Matt | WR | 6-3 | 211 | 3 | 25 | California |
| 52 | Bracein, Greg | LB | 6-2 | 215 | 5 | 27 | California |
| 45 | Burroughs, Jim | CB | 6-1 | 198 | 3 | 26 | Michigan St. |
| 80 | Butler, Raymond | WR | 6-3 | 197 | 5 | 28 | Southern Cal |
| 98 | Cooks, Johnie | LB | 6-4 | 246 | 3 | 26 | Miss St. |
| 33 | Dickey, Curtis | RB | 6-1 | 220 | 5 | 28 | Texas A&M |
| 53 | Donaldson, Ray | C | 6-3 | 269 | 5 | 26 | Georgia |
| 50 | Feasel, Grant | C | 6-8 | 278 | 2 | 24 | Abilene Christ. |
| 25 | Glasgow, Nesby | S | 5-10 | 184 | 6 | 27 | Washington |
| 69 | Giffin, Wade | T | 6-5 | 231 | 6 | 30 | Mississippi |
| 88 | Henry, Bernard | WR | 6-1 | 180 | 3 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 9 | Herrmann, Mark | QB | 6-4 | 190 | 4 | 25 | Purdue |
| 75 | Hinton, Chris | T | 6-4 | 286 | 2 | 23 | Northwestern |
| 51 | Jones, Ricky | LB | 6-2 | 222 | 8 | 29 | Tuskegee |
| 29 | Kalentzis, Mark | S | 5-10 | 185 | 3 | 26 | Hawaii |
| 55 | Krauss, Barry | LB | 6-3 | 247 | 6 | 27 | Alabama |
| 56 | Maxwell, Vernon | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 2 | 23 | Arizona St. |
| 32 | McMillan, Randy | RB | 6-1 | 222 | 4 | 26 | Pittsburgh |
| 76 | Mills, Jim | T | 6-9 | 271 | 2 | 23 | Hawaii |
| 23 | Moore, Alvin | RB | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | 25 | Arizona St. |
| 64 | Oatis, Victor | WR | 6-0 | 179 | 2 | 25 | NW Louisiana |
| 49 | Odum, Clifton | LB | 6-2 | 233 | 4 | 26 | Tex-Arlington |
| 60 | Padden, Gary | LB | 6-2 | 241 | 3 | 26 | Arizona St. |
| 18 | Pagel, Mike | QB | 6-2 | 200 | 3 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 78 | Parker, Steve | DE | 6-4 | 235 | 2 | 25 | E. Illinois |
| 20 | Porter, Ricky | RB | 5-11 | 195 | 2 | 24 | Slippery Rock |
| 87 | Porter, Tracy | WR | 6-2 | 195 | 4 | 25 | LSU |
| 21 | Randle, Tate | CB | 6-0 | 198 | 3 | 25 | Texas Tech |
| 8 | Reed, Mark | QB | 6-3 | 203 | 3 | 25 | Morehead |
| 83 | Sherwin, Tim | TE | 6-6 | 245 | 4 | 26 | Boston College |
| 79 | Sinnot, John | T | 6-4 | 275 | 3 | 26 | Brown |
| 86 | Smith, Phil | WR | 6-3 | 188 | 2 | 24 | San Diego St. |
| 3 | Stark, Rohn | P | 6-3 | 195 | 3 | 25 | Florida St. |
| 12 | Taylor, Jim Bob | QB | 6-2 | 200 | 2 | 25 | Georgia Tech |
| 89 | Thompson, Aundra | WR | 6-0 | 186 | 8 | 31 | East Texas St. |
| 99 | Thompson, Donnell | DE | 6-5 | 263 | 4 | 26 | North Carolina |
| 64 | Utt, Ben | T | 6-5 | 267 | 3 | 25 | Georgia Tech |
| 71 | Waechter, Henry | DE | 6-6 | 260 | 3 | 25 | Nebraska |
| 44 | Williams, Kendall | CB | 5-9 | 190 | 2 | 25 | Arizona St. |
| 39 | Williams, Newton | RB | 5-10 | 204 | 3 | 25 | Arizona St. |
| 69 | Wisniewski, Leo | NT | 6-1 | 257 | 3 | 25 | Penn St. |
| 73 | Wright, Steve | OL | 6-6 | 250 | 4 | 25 | Northern Iowa |
| 49 | Young, Dave | TE | 6-5 | 240 | 3 | 25 | Purdue |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| 1 | Coleman, Leonard | DB | 6-2 | 208 | Vanderbilt |
| 1 | Solt, Ron | OG | 6-3 | 260 | Maryland |
| 2 | Winter, Blaise | DT | 6-3 | 262 | Syracuse |
| 3 | Scott, Chris | DT | 6-5 | 250 | Purdue |
| 4 | Cury, Craig | DB | 6-0 | 187 | Texas |
| 4 | Womble, George | RB | 6-0 | 205 | Miss. St. |
| 5 | Tale, Golden | WR | 6-3 | 190 | Tenn. St. |
| 5 | Call, Kevin | OT | 6-6 | 289 | Colorado St. |
| 6 | Beverly, Dwight | RB | 6-0 | 200 | Illinois |
| 8 | Daniel, Eugene | DB | 6-0 | 181 | LSU |
| 11 | Stowe, Bob | OT | 6-4 | 265 | Illinois |
| 12 | Hathaway, Steve | LB | 6-4 | 220 | West Virginia |



when Golden Tate, who scored 27 career touchdowns for Tennessee State, was tabbed. Tim Sherwin and Pat Beach are the tight ends. They combined for 30 catches. Beach had the only touchdown reception.

Chris Hinton, the trapping guard, went to the Pro Bowl last season, rare for a rookie offensive lineman. The Colts drafted another offensive lineman in the first round again. This one is Maryland guard Ron Solt, who has a good chance to start. Solt's quick development would give the Colts solid inside blocking, since Ray Donaldson is an admirable center. Right tackle Jeff Hart defected to the USFL's Los Angeles Express, but Jim Mills comes off the injured list to reclaim the job he held before Hart won it by default. Karl Baldischwiler and Sid Abramowitz fight it out for left tackle. Steve Wright is Solt's competition at right guard.

Defensively, the Colts played all-or-nothing football. Three of their four leading sackers were linebackers. The leader of the blitz brigade is Vernon Maxwell, who had 11 sacks, caused six fumbles, pressured the quarterback 17 times, knocked down six passes, and made 92 tackles. He had more impact than any other AFC rookie defender.

There are four other stars, or potential stars, on the defensive unit. Leo Wisniewski is one. Considering that the nose tackle is basically supposed to tie up traffic and not necessarily make a lot of stops, Wisniewski's 95 tackles (second on the team) and five sacks are amazing. He also had 18 quarterback pres-

sures. Barry Krauss, who was the No. 2 pick in the NFL draft when he turned pro six seasons ago, finally made some impact as a starting linebacker. Donnell Thompson is still a reluctant dragon at left end, but he had four sacks and 15 pressures. Johnnie Cooks, the second pick in the '82 draft, played himself out of the linebacking unit late last season.

The draft brings four players who could be helpful, and two of them offer immediate aid. First-rounder Leonard Coleman should start at cornerback. Some thought the Vanderbilt product was the best corner in the draft. In the second round, the Colts took Syracuse defensive end Blaise Winter. He needs some polish, but his attitude is first-rate. The Colts also drafted Purdue defensive tackle Chris Scott and Texas defensive back Craig Curry. Steve Parker started at right end as a rookie, but he'll have to beat out Winter. Greg Bracelin is the outside linebacker opposite Maxwell. Cliff Odum moved ahead of Cooks as the left inside backer.

Free safety Nesby Glasgow led the team with 97 tackles. He is Kush's type of player, giving all he has on every down. James Burroughs is at left corner, but Tate Randall should be susceptible to Coleman's challenge. Larry Anderson is the strong safety.

The Colts' kicking game is very strong. Raul Allegre made a Pro Bowl bid as a rookie, connecting on 30 of 35 field goals. He won two games in overtime. Rohn Stark led the NFL with a 45.3-yard punting average. Kendall Williams had a 24.7-yard kickoff-return mark.

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NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE



by DON PIERSON CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Even though the National Football Conference failed to win the Super Bowl for the first time in three years, it remained more offensive-minded than those stodgy old foggies in the American Conference. The two rivals split, 26-26, in interconference games; and the Los Angeles Raiders buried the Washington Redskins in the grand finale. Yet the NFC continues to erase its well-deserved reputation as the boring half of the National Football League's entertainment business.

The NFC can boast the league's top two rushers in the Rams' Eric Dickerson and the Falcons' William Andrews, the top two passers in the Falcons' Steve Bartkowski and the Redskins' Joe Theismann, the leading receiver by yards in the Eagles' Mike Quick, the top pass interceptor in the Redskins' Mark Murphy, the top punt returner in the Rams' Henry Ellard, the top three nonkicking scorers in the Redskins' John Riggins, the Rams' Dickerson, and the Cardinals' Roy Green; and the top four kicking scorers in the Redskins' Mark Moseley, the Giants' Ali Haji-Sheikh, the 49ers' Ray Wersching, and the Cowboys' Rafael Septien.

NFC dominance in 1983 statistics went deeper than the top. It includes seven of the top ten rushers, six of the top ten passers, four of the top six receivers by yards, and six of the top eight interceptors. In a comprehensive breakdown of 44 offensive statistical categories, the NFC led the AFC in 31 of them. There was more scoring by the NFC teams, more touchdowns rushing and passing, more offensive plays rushing and passing, more pass completions, and a better pass-completion percentage.

The Redskins enter the 1984 season with a goal to match an accomplishment by the Miami Dolphins—three straight appearances in the Super Bowl. "To me, we have something to prove again," said Redskins' coach Joe Gibbs. "Maybe we can put together three good years in a row, which is something I don't think many teams have done at all."

There were closer division battles in the NFC. Washington's two-game edge over Dallas in the NFC East was the biggest runaway victory in the conference. In the NFC Central, one game separated the first four clubs. In the NFC West, three games separated the top from the bottom. The NFC also won the battle for parity. Four NFC clubs finished with 8-8 records, the utopian accomplishment according to

advocates of league balance. What does all this mean for 1984? Only that the NFC is no longer considered a stepchild in the family, the patsy on the schedule, the bane of Monday-night-TV football audiences.

The AFC grabbed all the young quarterbacks last season in an effort to regain the clear superiority it enjoyed during the 1970s. But before the talented arms of John Elway, Dan Marino, Todd Blackledge, Ken O'Brien, and Tony Eason develop, the NFC figures to get some more mileage out of Bartkowski, Theismann, the 49ers' Joe Montana, and the Packers' Lynn Dickey. The Cowboys' Danny White may have his day yet, and the Cardinals' Neil Lomax is busy demonstrating that young passers aren't the exclusive property of the AFC. Richard Todd jumped from the AFC Jets to the NFC Saints, where the pressure may be more suited to his style. The Bears' Jim McMahon and the Rams' Vince Ferragamo are capable of big seasons. The Vikings' Tommy Kramer is coming off a knee injury with something to prove.

Never lacking in great running backs, the NFC figures to maintain its edge in this area. Of the top six runners in football last season, five romped in the NFC. (Seattle's Curt Warner was the only AFC representative among them.) Dickerson delivered the great things expected by the Rams in only his rookie season. He made coach John Robinson's first season successful. In Robinson's one-back system, Dickerson is likely to enjoy unprecedented years to come. Andrews is called the best all-around back in football by many linebackers who either have to meet the 215-pounder in the hole or chase him downfield on a pass route. By the end of this season, the Bears' Walter Payton is expected to be the lead-



ing rusher of all time. Pittsburgh's Franco Harris is scheduled to catch Jim Brown's magic 12,312 yards first, but if recent form holds true, Payton will pass Harris during the second half of the season. Riggins scored a record 24 touchdowns last year, an accomplishment somehow ignored by the media, perhaps because almost all of the TDs came in goal-line situations. Those kinds of runs are spectacular only to coaches. At age 35, Riggins is back for another assault on the goal line and on the status quo. He is football's most refreshing character. In Dallas, Tony Dorsett continues his remarkably consistent career as the man who makes the Cowboy machine go. Younger runners Ottis Anderson of the Cardinals and George Rogers of the Saints also ranked among the top ten last year and showed flashes of brilliance that could finally push their teams into the playoffs.

Defense, once the cornerstone of NFC football, remains strong and should get stronger. The NFC already boasts all-pro linebackers Lawrence Taylor of the Giants, Hugh Green of the Buccaneers, and Mike Singletary of the Bears. In the draft, the Giants added Carl Banks and the Bears plucked Wilber Marshall, the two top collegians at the position. The Saints and the Eagles were the best teams in the league against the pass; the Redskins and Cowboys were the top two at stopping the run. Overall, the top defensive club was Cincinnati, and the Bengals' coaches are now working in Green Bay. Forrest Gregg returned to the city where he played for 15 years, but lost defensive coordinator Hank Bullough to the USFL.

The NFC Central Division will house the only two new coaches in the conference. Gregg is joined by Minnesota's Les Steckel, who replaced a legend, Bud Grant. As usual,

the Central is expected to produce a tight race again, and, as usual, the competitiveness will be described as mediocrity. Green Bay, Chicago, and Minnesota each finished 8-8 last year and each lamented a loss to first-place Detroit (9-7) that would have made them champions instead. Tampa Bay, out of it at 2-14, has been known to bounce from worst to first before. The Bucs had too many injuries in 1983 to count them out in 1984 because of their record. Whoever gets hot in December in the Central is the likely victor. The three teams which can avoid the cold—Minnesota, Detroit, and Tampa—could emerge on top. The Vikings and Lions get to play three of their last four games inside their domes. Tampa is at home three of the last four weeks, while the Bears and Packers play on the road three of the last four.

In the East, Washington and Dallas remain the class of the division, with St. Louis the outsider with the best chance of butting in. While the 14-2 Redskins and the 12-4 Cowboys were clearly the two winningest teams in the entire NFC, neither can ignore the impressive stretch run of the Cardinals last season, when coach Jim Hanifan's team went 7-2-1 in the last ten games. The Cardinals are the last team to beat the world champion Raiders. But they couldn't beat either Washington or Dallas, something they will have to correct if they hope to move up.

In the West, the champion 49ers were only three games ahead of the last-place Falcons, and the two teams split their two games by four-point margins. The Rams also split with the 49ers. Had they won both games, they would have been 10-6 and the 49ers 9-7. The third-place Saints missed the chance to be an NFC wild card when they lost to the Rams by two points in the final game.



PREDICTIONS

EAST

1. Washington Redskins
2. Dallas Cowboys
3. St. Louis Cardinals
4. Philadelphia Eagles
5. New York Giants

WEST

1. New Orleans Saints
2. Los Angeles Rams
3. San Francisco 49ers
4. Atlanta Falcons

CENTRAL

1. Detroit Lions
2. Chicago Bears
3. Green Bay Packers
4. Minnesota Vikings
5. Tampa Bay Buccaneers



REDSKINS' 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Moseley, 161 points on 33 field goals and 62 extra points...1st
RUSHING—Riggins, 375 carries for 1,347 yards, 3.6 avg., 24 TDs...4th
PASSING—Theismann, 276 of 459 attempts for 3,714 yards and 29 TDs...2nd
RECEIVING—C. Brown, 78 receptions for 1,225 yards, 15.7 avg., 8 TDs...2nd
INTERCEPTIONS—Murphy, 9 for 127 yards, 14.1 avg...1st
PUNTING—Hayes, 72 punts, 38.8 avg., longest 56 yards...12th
PUNT RETURNS—Nelms, 38 for 289 yards, 7.6 avg...12th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Nelms, 35 for 802 yards, 22.9 avg...3rd

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 4 At Denver (N)
10 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N)
17 NEW ENGLAND (N)
25 At New Orleans

1984 SCHEDULE

| | 1984 SCHEDULE | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------------|
| September | 2 MIAMI | — |
| | 10 At San Francisco (N) | — |
| | 16 NEW YORK GIANTS | 31-22 |
| | 23 At New England | — |
| | 30 PHILADELPHIA | 28-24 |
| October | 7 At Indianapolis | — |
| | 14 DALLAS | 30-31 |
| | 21 At St. Louis | 38-14 |
| | 28 At New York Giants | 33-17 |
| November | 5 ATLANTA (N) | 37-21 |
| | 11 DETROIT | — |
| | 18 At Philadelphia | 23-13 |
| | 25 BUFFALO | — |
| | 29 At Minnesota (N) | — |
| December | 9 At Dallas | 31-10 |
| | 16 ST. LOUIS | 45-7 |

NFC east

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Don't tell Joe Gibbs the Washington Redskins have nothing to prove. Two trips in a row to the Super Bowl don't count if the second one was a loss. To the coach, the Redskins sound like just another of the 27 "losers" in the NFL.

Here is a team that has won 36 of its last 43 games, set a league record for points, with 541, and beat the Los Angeles Rams, 51-7, in a playoff. And yet the Redskins enter 1984 with something to prove. Their 38-9 loss to the Raiders in the Super Bowl seemed to tarnish in some way all the accomplishments of the previous three seasons under Gibbs. Simply being the best team in football since mid-1981 isn't enough if the latest Super Bowl ring isn't on the finger. More than all his innovative offensive theories, Gibbs taught his team to win the old-fashioned way: by working at it. The Super Bowl loss is likely to provide just the incentive Gibbs needs for more success.

At age 34, quarterback Joe Theismann is ready for another shot. Except for one pass in the flat intercepted by Raiders' linebacker Jack Squirek, Theismann had little to complain about in 1983. Only Atlanta's Steve Bartkowski had a better passer rating. Only Green Bay's Lynn Dickey threw more touchdown passes. Among the leaders, only Bartkowski and Miami's Dan Marino threw fewer interceptions. Theismann had plenty to talk about, and no one out-talked him. Perfectly suited to Gibbs's offensive strategy, Theismann knows who is supposed to be open and hits him. And his sprints are almost impossible to defend. The Redskins picked up 40-year-old veteran Jim Hart from the St. Louis Cardinals as insurance for Theismann. Third-round draft choice Jay Schroeder from UCLA will join Bob Holly and Babe Laufenberg to compete for backup spots.

NFL owners abolished the end zone celebrations of the Redskins' receiving corps, the "Fun Bunch," but the group still plans to hold meetings in the same place. Charlie Brown, Art Monk, Alvin Garrett, and Virgil Seay combined for 152 catches, 2,358 yards, and 15 touchdowns last year. Brown played in his second Pro Bowl after again demonstrating a great knack for getting open and making tough catches. He tied the Cardinals' Roy Green and the Giants' Earnest Gray for most catches in the NFC, with 78. His 1,225 yardage was two behind Green. Brown also led the club in TD catches, with eight. Monk caught 47 passes from the other side, tying running back Joe Washington. He makes it unwise to double Brown. At tight end, Don Warren, Rick Walker, and Clint Didier combined for 46 receptions and eight touchdowns, giving the offense a balanced attack. The tight ends contribute just as much to

Running back John Riggins and quarterback Joe Theismann are indispensable to the Redskins.

spring open the wide receivers with their motion. The return of Mike Williams from injury provides further competition at tight end.

As long as John Riggins or Joe Washington lines up at running back, Theismann will feel like just another kid in the huddle. Riggins is a month older (both will turn 35 before the season) and coming off a season as spectacular as that of Theismann's. His 24 touchdowns, breaking the league record of 23 by O.J. Simpson, was one of the most overlooked accomplishments of the 1983 season. Riggins downgraded it himself, pointing out that nearly all were from inside the three-yard line, as if it is easy to score from there. Another good year out of Riggins and Washington would seem to assure the Redskins of success. Their entire offense revolves around the ground attack. Combined, Riggins and the 31-year-old Washington gained over 2,000 yards and caught over 50 passes. No other duo gained more. Otis Wonsley and Reggie Evans will be joined in the backfield by fourth-round pick Jimmy Smith of Elon College.

The running attack helped the Redskins lead the NFL in time of possession. Much of that credit must go to the Hogs, who are only too eager to take it. Left tackle Joe Jacoby and left guard Russ Grimm give the club an all-pro side of beef, and both slabs are starting only their fourth seasons. Center Jeff Bostic is also in his fourth year, and his coaches think he is all-pro, too. There are changes on the horizon on the right side, where George Starke enters his twelfth season. Guard Mark May might move into Starke's tackle spot. At 6-6, 288, May is a rather large guard. Besides, he played tackle at Pitt. A move by May would allow the Redskins to find a spot at guard for veterans Ken Huff, Bruce Kimball, or Roy Simmons. Donald Laster (6-5, 285) is another prospect looking for a chance at tackle.

Some changes are in the works on the defensive line as well. The Redskins finished first in the league against the rush but last against the pass. True, teams passed for two reasons: they couldn't run very well against them and they usually were losing to the Redskin offen-

sive machine, which outscored opponents in the first quarter, 127-42. But the Redskins didn't spend their first two draft choices on defensive linemen for nothing. They want improvement and competition, especially at end. Dexter Manley had 11 sacks and Tony McGee had ten, but the Redskins need more strength. Todd Liebenstein and Charles Mann played well. Mat Mendenhall is expected back after missing the entire 1983 season. No. 1 draft choice Bob Slater of Oklahoma and second-round Steve Hamilton of East Carolina will get the chance. At least one tackle spot is solid, the place where Dave Butz (6-7, 295) resides. Entering his twelfth season on the left side, Butz finally got his due with a Pro Bowl trip after leading the team with 11½ sacks and five forced fumbles. Darryl Grant started every game at right tackle. He is backed up by Perry Brooks and Bruce Radford.

Competition is the catalyst at linebacker. Neal Olkewicz and Larry Kubin will fight it out in the middle. Rich Milot and Mel Kaufman start on the outside, and Monte Coleman is more than a capable reserve.

The secondary took its share of abuse last year. The Skins had drafted cornerbacks Vernon Dean and Darrell Green in the first rounds in 1982 and 1983, but injuries and the loss of strong safety Tony Peters—reinstated in 1984—to drug problems forced defensive coordinator Richie Petitbon to play the Super Bowl with three new starters: Green, Ken Coffey, and Anthony Washington. Dean played with nagging injuries until Washington took over later in the season. Gibbs said that Green's early exposure at left corner and Washington's late arrival both hurt the team. Brian Carpenter and Dean will vie for a starting job this summer. Coffey played well at strong safety, where he is backed up by Curtis Jordan. Free safety Mark Murphy led the league in interceptions, with nine, and was second to Olkewicz on the club in tackles. Greg Williams is the backup.

At age 36, Mark Moseley is hoping to return to the place-kicking form he had two years ago, when he set NFL accuracy records. Last year, he merely set a record of 161 points. Jeff Hayes tied for the lead in placing punts inside the 20-yard line, with 29, so his average suffered but not his reputation.

Defensive tackle Dave Butz (left), receiver Charlie Brown (#87) and tailback Joe Washington, and tackle Joe Jacoby (#66) of Washington



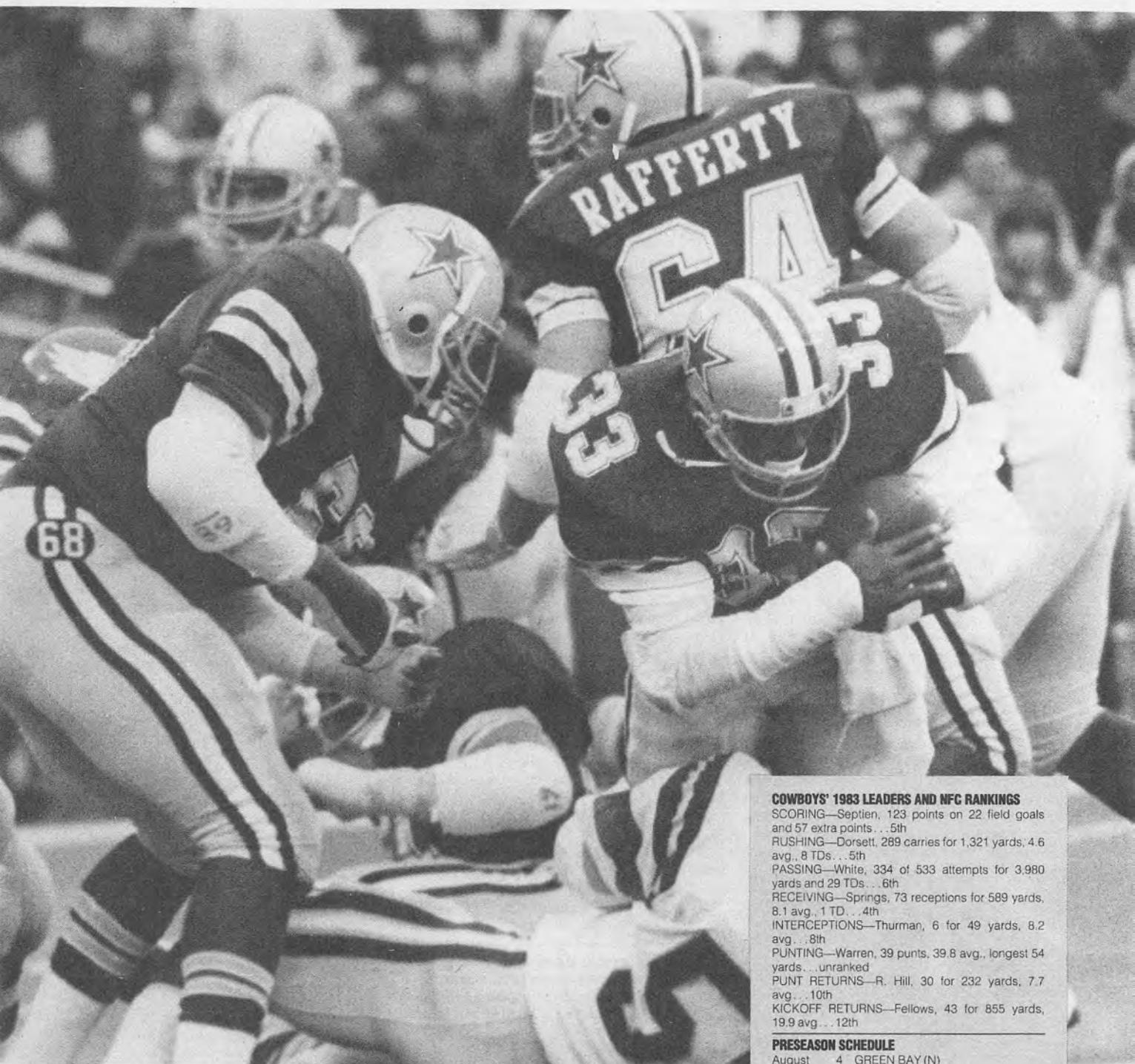
REDSKINS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 58 Anderson, Stuart | LB | 6-1 | 224 | 3 | 25 | Virginia |
| 53 Bostic, Jeff | C | 6-2 | 250 | 5 | 26 | Clemson |
| 69 Brooks, Perry | DT | 6-3 | 270 | 7 | 30 | Southern U. |
| 87 Brown, Charlie | WR | 5-10 | 178 | 3 | 26 | S.C.St. |
| 65 Butz, Dave | DT | 6-7 | 295 | 11 | 34 | Purdue |
| 41 Carpenter, Brian | DB | 5-10 | 167 | 3 | 24 | Michigan |
| 48 Coffey, Ken | SS | 6-0 | 190 | 2 | 24 | S.W. Texas |
| 51 Coleman, Monte | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 6 | 27 | Cent. Arkansas |
| 54 Cronan, Peter | LB | 6-2 | 238 | 7 | 29 | Boston College |
| 32 Dean, Vernon | CB | 5-11 | 178 | 3 | 25 | San Diego St. |
| 86 Didier, Clint | TE | 6-5 | 240 | 3 | 25 | Portland St. |
| 26 Evans, Reggie | RB | 5-11 | 200 | 2 | 25 | Richmond |
| 89 Garrett, Alvin | WR | 5-7 | 185 | 5 | 29 | Angelo St. |
| 30 Giacinto, Nick | RB | 5-11 | 204 | 5 | 29 | Connecticut |
| 77 Grant, Daryl | DT | 6-1 | 275 | 4 | 25 | Rice |
| 28 Green, Darrell | DB | 5-8 | 170 | 2 | 24 | Texas A&I |
| 68 Grimm, Russ | G | 6-3 | 290 | 4 | 25 | Pittsburgh |
| 17 Hart, Jim | QB | 6-1 | 210 | 19 | 40 | S. Illinois |
| 5 Hayes, Jeff | P | 5-11 | 175 | 3 | 29 | North Carolina |
| 8 Holly, Bob | QB | 6-2 | 196 | 3 | 24 | Princeton |
| 61 Huff, Ken | G | 6-4 | 265 | 10 | 31 | North Carolina |
| 34 Hunter, Monty | S | 6-0 | 202 | 3 | 25 | Salem (WV) |
| 66 Jacoby, Joe | T | 6-7 | 300 | 4 | 25 | Louisville |
| 22 Jordan, Curtis | SS | 6-2 | 205 | 8 | 30 | Texas Tech |
| 55 Kaufman, Mel | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 4 | 26 | Cal Poly-Obispo |
| 67 Kimball, Bruce | G | 6-2 | 260 | 3 | 28 | Massachusetts |
| 50 Kubin, Larry | LB | 6-2 | 238 | 3 | 25 | Penn St. |
| 62 Laster, Donald | T | 6-5 | 285 | 2 | 26 | Tennessee St. |
| 12 Lautenberg, Babe | QB | 6-2 | 195 | 2 | 25 | Indiana |
| 79 Liebenstein, Todd | DE | 6-6 | 255 | 3 | 24 | UNLV |
| 72 Manley, Dexter | DE | 6-3 | 250 | 4 | 25 | Oklahoma St. |
| 71 Mann, Charles | DE | 6-6 | 250 | 2 | 23 | Nevada-Reno |
| 73 May, Mark | G | 6-6 | 288 | 4 | 25 | Pittsburgh |
| 78 McGee, Tony | DE | 6-3 | 249 | 14 | 35 | Bishop (TX) |
| 83 McGrath, Mark | WR | 5-11 | 175 | 3 | 27 | Montana St. |
| 76 Mendenhall, Mat | DE | 6-6 | 255 | 3 | 27 | Brigham Young |
| 57 Milot, Rich | LB | 6-4 | 237 | 6 | 27 | Penn State |
| 81 Monk, Art | WR | 6-3 | 209 | 5 | 27 | Syracuse |
| 3 Moseley, Mark | K | 6-0 | 204 | 13 | 36 | S.F. Austin |
| 29 Murphy, Mark | FS | 6-4 | 210 | 8 | 29 | Colgate |
| 21 Nelms, Mike | WR | 6-1 | 185 | 5 | 29 | Baylor |
| 52 Olkewicz, Neal | LB | 6-0 | 233 | 6 | 27 | Maryland |
| 7 Radford, Bruce | DT | 6-5 | 280 | 4 | 29 | Grambling |
| 44 Riggins, John | RB | 6-2 | 235 | 13 | 35 | Kansas |
| 80 Seay, Virgil | WR | 5-9 | 175 | 4 | 26 | Troy St. |
| 60 Simmons, Roy | OL | 6-3 | 264 | 5 | 28 | Georgia Tech |
| 74 Starke, George | T | 6-5 | 260 | 12 | 36 | Columbia |
| 7 Theismann, Joe | QB | 6-0 | 198 | 11 | 35 | Notre Dame |
| 88 Walker, Rick | TE | 6-4 | 235 | 8 | 29 | UCLA |
| 85 Warren, Don | TE | 6-4 | 242 | 6 | 28 | San Diego St. |
| 24 Washington, A | CB | 6-1 | 204 | 4 | 26 | Fresno St. |
| 25 Washington, Joe | RB | 5-10 | 179 | 8 | 31 | Oklahoma |
| 47 Williams, Greg | FS | 5-11 | 185 | 3 | 25 | Miss. St. |
| 84 Williams, Michael | TE | 6-4 | 251 | 3 | 25 | Alabama A&M |
| 39 Wonsley, Otis | RB | 5-10 | 214 | 4 | 27 | Alcorn St. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 2 | Slater, Bob | DT | 6-4 | 265 | Oklahoma |
| 2 | Hamilton, Steve | DE | 6-4 | 253 | East Carolina |
| 3 | Schroeder, Jay | QB | 6-4 | 215 | UCLA |
| 4 | Smith, Jimmy | RB | 6-0 | 205 | Elon |
| 5 | Pegues, Jeff | LB | 6-2 | 236 | East Carolina |
| 6 | Singer, Curt | OT | 6-5 | 264 | Tennessee |
| 7 | Smith, Mark | WR | 6-0 | 180 | North Carolina |
| 8 | Smith, Jeff | DB | 6-0 | 189 | Missouri |
| 10 | Griffin, Keith | RB | 5-8 | 185 | Miami |
| 11 | Jones, Anthony | TE | 6-3 | 248 | Wichita St. |
| 12 | Thomas, Curtland | WR | 5-11 | 182 | Missouri |





DALLAS COWBOYS

Will the Dallas Cowboys win the Super Bowl this year, or will they once again be doomed to utter, miserable failure? In Dallas, there is no in-between. They spent the offseason licking the embarrassing wounds of a 12-4 season capped off by a loss in the playoffs. Horrors. New Orleans was happier with the Saints' 8-8 record than Dallas was with the Cowboys' eighteenth consecutive winning season. That string represents an NFL record that means next to nothing in Dallas. This is the "Silver Season" for the Silver and Blue, but it won't mean much unless it is capped by the gold rings of Super Bowl XIX.

One key no doubt will be an October 14

date in Washington with the Redskins, who struck down Cowboy hopes last year in one devastating swoop. After the Cowboys opened last season with a spectacular come-from-behind victory over the world champion Redskins in Washington, they lost a showdown in their own stadium in the next-to-last game of the year by the lopsided margin of 31-10. The Cowboys and the Redskins have another meeting in Texas on December 9.

If the Cowboys fail to win it all, it will be quarterback Danny White's fault, of course. That is understood in advance, because Cowboy fans say it will be so. White is not the only starting quarterback who has felt pressure

COWBOYS' 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Septien, 123 points on 22 field goals and 57 extra points...5th
RUSHING—Dorsett, 289 carries for 1,321 yards; 4.6 avg., 8 TDs...5th
PASSING—White, 334 of 533 attempts for 3,980 yards and 29 TDs...6th
RECEIVING—Springs, 73 receptions for 589 yards, 8.1 avg., 1 TD...4th
INTERCEPTIONS—Thurman, 6 for 49 yards, 8.2 avg...8th
PUNTING—Warren, 39 punts, 39.8 avg., longest 54 yards...unranked
PUNT RETURNS—R. Hill, 30 for 232 yards, 7.7 avg...10th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Fellows, 43 for 855 yards, 19.9 avg...12th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|------------------|
| August | 4 | GREEN BAY (N) |
| | 11 | At San Diego (N) |
| | 16 | PITTSBURGH (N) |
| | 25 | HOUSTON (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|-----------|----|-------------------------|-------|
| September | 3 | At Los Angeles Rams (N) | — |
| | 9 | At New York Giants | 38-20 |
| | 16 | PHILADELPHIA | 27-20 |
| | 23 | GREEN BAY | — |
| | 30 | At Chicago | — |
| October | 7 | ST. LOUIS | 35-17 |
| | 14 | At Washington | 31-30 |
| | 21 | NEW ORLEANS (N) | 21-20 |
| | 28 | INDIANAPOLIS | — |
| November | 4 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 28-13 |
| | 11 | At St. Louis | 34-17 |
| | 18 | At Buffalo | — |
| | 22 | NEW ENGLAND | — |
| December | 2 | At Philadelphia | 37-7 |
| | 9 | WASHINGTON | 10-31 |
| | 17 | At Miami (N) | — |

from coaches, fans, and media, but he might be one of the best starting quarterbacks to feel so much abuse.

"Danny has done a remarkable job in following Roger Staubach," said coach Tom Landry. "Every year he's been No. 1 quarterback, we could have been in the Super Bowl. So it's not his fault." Yet Landry knows that his decision of who plays quarterback this year is critical. Even if losing is not Danny White's fault, Landry may be forced to make a change. He agrees that backup Gary Hogeboom is on the verge of making a move. With third-stringer Glenn Carano going to the USFL, the Cowboys drafted Washington quarterback Steve Pelluer in the fifth round. In Dallas, it won't take Pelluer long to establish himself as a fan favorite.

It wasn't White's fault that the Cowboy rushing attack gained only two yards a carry in the last few games. "That has very little to do with personnel; it's the mental attitude of your team that creates those situations," said Landry. Landry said running back Tony Dorsett tailed off, but added, "Our whole team did. I don't think it's a reflection on him as a runner." Dorsett was sixth in the league in rushing. Among the top ten, only Atlanta's William Andrews had a better average per carry than Dorsett's 4.6. Ron Springs is coming off his best year as a fullback. If Robert Newhouse retires, Landry will be looking for more depth to help Timmy Newsome, Chuck McSwain, and Gary Allen. There is some question about whether James Jones can return from a knee injury.

There are also questions about the Cowboy receiving corps after the retirement of tight end Billy Joe DuPree, the car-accident injuries to wide receiver Drew Pearson, and the trade of the flamboyant Butch Johnson. Johnson was shipped to Houston in exchange for Mike Renfro, a steady veteran who may end up starting opposite Tony Hill. Pearson wants to come back and dedicate his twelfth season to the memory of a brother who was killed in the accident that injured Pearson.

"He will be slow coming back. I don't expect him to be ready for the opening of the season. Therefore, Doug Donley will enter

training camp as a starter," said Landry. Donley caught only 18 passes in a reserve role last season, but his speed makes him an attractive asset. Hill led the club in receiving yardage and touchdowns and must be the No. 1 threat if the Cowboys are to be effective. Renfro caught 23 passes in Houston and will lend stability to the receiving corps. Kirk Phillips is returning from injury.

The absence of DuPree at tight end led the Cowboys to draft USC's Fred Cornwell in the third round to back up Doug Cosbie. Cleo Simmons is the only other reserve. He was a rookie last year. Cosbie is ready to assert himself as the all-pro Landry thinks he is. Cosbie caught 46 passes, six for touchdowns. That put him third among NFC tight ends. Ron Springs caught 73 passes from his fullback spot and is capable of playing the tight-end position when the Cowboys use a one-back formation. No other NFC running back caught as many passes.

The possible retirement of left tackle Pat Donovan could mean changes in the offensive line, and the Cowboys prepared for it by drafting three guards in late rounds. Donovan, center Tom Rafferty, and right guard Kurt Petersen all were hindered by nagging injuries last year. If Donovan does not return, Howard Richards could move into his spot. If Donovan remains, Richards will push for a starting spot at guard. Herb Scott is a veteran pass-blocking specialist who does a good job at left guard. Rafferty has been bothered by a turf toe and is backed up at center by Glen Titensor and Brian Baldinger. Jim Cooper is solid at right tackle, and young Phil Pozderac provides depth at tackle and is another candidate for Donovan's spot.

"Age is our biggest problem on the defensive line," said Landry. Ed Jones, 33, John Dutton, 33, Randy White, 31, and Harvey Martin, 33, formed the front four that was the strength of the Cowboy defense. Martin has retired and Jim Jeffcoat and Don Smerek are competing for the job vacancy. Mark Tuinei and Bryan Caldwell provide depth.

The Cowboys addressed the need for more linebackers in the draft by taking Billy Cannon Jr. of Texas A&M in the first round and Steve DeOssie of Boston College in the fourth. Cannon, who also played safety in college, is expected to challenge Anthony Dickerson at right linebacker. Dickerson is the master of big plays, but he needs more consistency. DeOssie, projected as a first-round pick by some experts, will back up Bob Bruenig in the middle. Scott McLean is recovering from a serious knee problem. Jeff Rohrer, Angelo King, and Mike Walter compete for reserve roles.

Changes are possible in the secondary as well, where second-round draft choice Victor Scott of Colorado will set a shot to start at right cornerback, as will veterans Ron Fellows and Rod Hill. If any one of them can do it, Dennis Thurman can move to safety and compete for a job with Dexter Clinkscales, Bill Bates, and Michael Downs. Clinkscales started at strong safety and Downs at free safety last year, but Bates, the special teams' player of the year in the NFL, is pushing at strong safety. If Bates can handle the spot, Downs, Clinkscales, and Thurman could vie for free safety. The only solid starter in the backfield is left cornerback Everson Walls, who has proven for two years that his sensational rookie year was no fluke.



COWBOYS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|------------------------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 31 Allen, Gary | RB | 5-10 | 180 | 3 | 24 | Hawaii |
| 62 Baldinger, Brian | G | 6-4 | 253 | 3 | 25 | Duke |
| 40 Bates, Bill | S | 6-1 | 195 | 2 | 23 | Tennessee |
| 53 Breunig, Bob | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 10 | 31 | Arizona St. |
| 47 Clinkscales, Dexter | S | 5-11 | 190 | 4 | 26 | S. C. St. |
| 61 Cooper, Jim | T | 6-5 | 260 | 8 | 29 | Temple |
| 84 Cosbie, Doug | TE | 6-6 | 232 | 6 | 28 | Santa Clara |
| 51 Dickerson, Anthony | LB | 6-2 | 222 | 5 | 27 | SMU |
| 83 Donley, Doug | WR | 6-0 | 173 | 4 | 25 | Ohio St. |
| 67 Donovan, Pat | T | 6-5 | 257 | 10 | 31 | Stanford |
| 33 Dorsett, Tony | RB | 5-11 | 192 | 8 | 30 | Pittsburgh |
| 26 Downs, Michael | S | 6-3 | 203 | 4 | 25 | Rice |
| 78 Dutton, John | DT | 6-7 | 275 | 11 | 33 | Nebraska |
| 27 Fellows, Ron | CB | 6-0 | 174 | 4 | 26 | Missouri |
| 58 Heggan, Mike | LB | 6-1 | 228 | 9 | 31 | Tennessee St. |
| 25 Hill, Rod | CB | 6-0 | 182 | 3 | 25 | Kentucky St. |
| 80 Hill, Tony | WR | 6-2 | 198 | 8 | 28 | Stanford |
| 14 Hogeboom, Gary | QB | 6-4 | 199 | 5 | 26 | Cent. Michigan |
| 77 Jeffcoat, Jim | DE | 6-5 | 264 | 2 | 23 | Arizona St. |
| 72 Jones, Ed | DE | 6-9 | 272 | 10 | 33 | Tennessee St. |
| 23 Jones, James | RB | 5-10 | 202 | 4 | 26 | Miss. St. |
| 57 King, Angelo | LB | 6-1 | 230 | 4 | 26 | S. C. St. |
| 52 McLean, Scott | LB | 6-4 | 233 | 2 | 24 | Florida St. |
| 35 McSwain, Chuck | RB | 6-0 | 191 | 2 | 23 | Clemson |
| 3 Miller, Jim | P | 5-11 | 183 | 5 | 27 | Mississippi |
| 44 Newhouse, Robert | RB | 5-10 | 219 | 13 | 34 | Houston |
| 30 Newsome, Tim | RB | 6-1 | 231 | 5 | 26 | Winston-Salem |
| 88 Pearson, Drew | WR | 6-0 | 193 | 12 | 33 | Tulsa |
| 65 Petersen, Kurt | G | 6-4 | 268 | 5 | 27 | Missouri |
| 75 Pozderac, Phil | T | 6-9 | 270 | 3 | 25 | Notre Dame |
| 64 Rafferty, Tom | C | 6-3 | 259 | 9 | 30 | Penn St. |
| 82 Renfro, Mike | WR | 6-0 | 184 | 7 | 29 | TCU |
| 70 Richards, Howard | G | 6-6 | 258 | 4 | 25 | Missouri |
| 50 Rohrer, Jeff | LB | 6-3 | 232 | 3 | 26 | Yale |
| 66 Schultz, Chris | T | 6-8 | 265 | 2 | 24 | Arizona |
| 68 Scott, Herbert | G | 6-2 | 260 | 10 | 31 | Virginia Union |
| 1 Sepulen, Rafael | K | 5-10 | 180 | 8 | 31 | S. W. Louisiana |
| 85 Simmons, Cleo | TE | 6-2 | 225 | 2 | 24 | Jackson St. |
| 60 Smerek, Don | DT | 6-7 | 257 | 4 | 27 | Nevada-Reno |
| 20 Springs, Ron | RB | 6-1 | 210 | 6 | 28 | Ohio St. |
| 32 Thurman, Dennis | CB | 5-11 | 183 | 7 | 28 | Southern Cal |
| 63 Tiensson, Glen | C | 6-4 | 260 | 4 | 26 | Brigham Young |
| 71 Tuinei, Mark | DT | 6-5 | 270 | 2 | 24 | Hawaii |
| 24 Walls, Everson | CB | 6-1 | 194 | 4 | 25 | Grambling |
| 59 Walter, Mike | LB | 6-3 | 238 | 2 | 24 | Oregon |
| 5 Warren, John | P | 6-0 | 207 | 2 | 24 | Tennessee |
| 11 White, Danny | QB-P | 6-0 | 196 | 9 | 32 | Arizona St. |
| 54 White, Randy | DT | 6-4 | 263 | 10 | 31 | Maryland |

DRAFTEES

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|--------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 Cannon, Billy | LB | 6-4 | 235 | Texas A&M |
| 2 Scott, Victor | DB | 5-10 | 182 | Colorado |
| 3 Cornwell, Fred | TE | 6-5 | 236 | Southern Cal |
| 4 DeOssie, Steve | LB | 6-2 | 250 | Boston College |
| 5 Pelluer, Steve | QB | 6-4 | 204 | Washington |
| 5 Granger, Norm | RB | 5-9 | 217 | Iowa |
| 6 Lockhart, Eugene | LB | 6-2 | 228 | Houston |
| 6 Levelis, Joe | OG | 6-3 | 270 | Iowa |
| 7 Marin, Ed | LB | 6-3 | 218 | Indiana St. |
| 8 Revelli, Mike | RB | 5-11 | 197 | Beth-Cookman |
| 9 Hunt, John | OG | 6-4 | 262 | Florida |
| 9 Maune, Neil | OG | 6-4 | 249 | Notre Dame |
| 10 Salonen, Brian | TE | 6-2 | 227 | Montana |
| 11 Aughtman, Dowe | DT | 6-2 | 272 | Auburn |
| 12 Lewis, Carl | WR | 6-3 | 187 | Houston |



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(A" — Play National Handicapping Contest)

RESULTS

October 16, 1983

BEST BETS:

Buffalo (P) over Baltimore 30-7
San Francisco (+1) over New Orleans 32-13

October 23, 1983

BEST BETS:

San Francisco (-1) over L.A. Rams 45-35
Minnesota (+2) over Green Bay 20-17

October 30, 1983

BEST BETS:

San Diego (+6) over Washington 24-27
St. Louis (+3) over Minnesota 41-31

November 6, 1983

BEST BETS:

Philadelphia (+7) over Dallas 20-27
St. Louis (+10) over Washington 7-45

November 13, 1983

BEST BETS:

Kansas City (+2) over Cincinnati 20-15
New England (+3) over Miami 17-3

November 20, 1983

BEST BETS:

Minnesota (+7) over Pittsburgh 17-14
N.Y. Jets (+3) over New Orleans 31-28

November 27, 1983

BEST BETS:

Philadelphia (+15) over Washington 24-28
Chicago (+5) over San Francisco 13-3

December 4, 1983

BEST BETS:

Denver (+1) over Cleveland 27-6
Baltimore (+5) over N.Y. Jets 6-10

December 11, 1983

BEST BETS:

New Orleans (-2) over Philadelphia 20-17
St. Louis (+9) over L.A. Raiders 34-24

December 18, 1983

BEST BETS:

N.Y. Giants (+15) over Washington 22-31
San Diego (+9) over L.A. Raiders 14-30

/ DENOTES LOSER

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ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Experts looking for a team on the rise usually meet in St. Louis. The Cardinals answered a 1-5 start last year with a 7-2-1 finish. Not much else in the way of evidence is required, except to note they also are the last team to beat the world champion Los Angeles Raiders. Confidence is built on such accomplishments.

Excitement abounds in St. Louis. When it gets out of hand, all head coach Jim Hanifan has to do is refer his team to the scores of last year's games against NFC East rivals Dallas and Washington. The closest call was a 34-17 loss. As far as the Cardinals have progressed in nearly every area, they weren't anywhere near the teams they must beat.

To get there, the Cardinals must shackle another foe: inconsistency. And they must give quarterback Neil Lomax better protection. Sure, it's fun to watch Lomax run around back there. He is wonderfully effective and exciting. But enough is enough. The guy was knocked down 40 times. He managed to escape enough times to set club records for completion percentage (59) and passer rating (92). He got the ball to Roy Green more times for more yardage than any other receiver in the NFC and for more touchdowns (14) than any other receiver in football. Just think what he might do if he could spend more time on his feet.

To that end, the Cardinals spent their second-round draft choice on a guard, Doug Dawson of Texas. But first, another receiver. The Cardinals are starting to look like the rest of their NFC East rivals: greedy. Roy Green and Pat Tilley will have Tennessee's speedy Clyde Duncan in the lineup to help take the pressure off everyone. That's the plan, anyway. Despite Lomax's effectiveness and Green's statistics, the Cardinals were 24th in the league in passing yardage last year.

Anything is welcome that will take the weight off Lomax's shoulders, literally and figuratively. A shoulder injury early in the season sidelined Lomax in the season opener. Behind him is Rusty Lisch, a fifth-year reserve. The Cardinals added Texas quarterback Rick McIvor as added insurance in the third round, even though many scouts had him way down their lists of prospects.

Depending on how fast Duncan can develop, Lomax should have fun with his receiving corps. Playing behind Willie Gault, Mike Miller, and Darryl Wilson—all 1983 draft choices—Duncan didn't get a chance to start at Tennessee until last season. So he remains a raw talent that the Cardinals can afford to bring along slowly. With Green and Tilley starting, Duncan won't be required to carry a burden. If he can progress as fast as Green has, somebody better hire the Cardinals' receivers coach in a hurry. In only his second year as a full-time pass catcher, including the strike-shortened 1982 season, Green was spectacular. With Tilley on the other side, the Cardinals are well-balanced. Each averaged exactly 15.7 yards a catch. Tilley needs 54 catches to move into second place on the all-time team receiving list, behind Jackie Smith. Danny Pittman, Mike Shumann, and Steve Bird



compete for reserve roles. Tight end Doug Marsh was another pleasant surprise (32 receptions and 8 touchdowns.) Greg LaFleur and Eddie McGill fought injuries while backing up Marsh last year.

In O.J. Anderson, the Cardinals have one of football's premier running backs. After a slow start last year, Anderson got physical and rushed for 100 yards in five of the team's final eight games. He also set a club record for receptions by a running back, with 54. Anderson's rushing yardage put him eighth among all runners in 1983. The youngest player among the all-time top 20, he needs a routine

Quarterback Neil Lomax enters his fourth season with the Cardinals.

CARDINALS' 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—O'Donoghue, 90 points on 15 field goals and 45 extra points...12th
RUSHING—Anderson, 296 carries for 1,270 yards, 4.3 avg., 5 TDs...6th
PASSING—Lomax, 209 of 354 attempts for 2,636 yards and 24 TDs...4th
RECEIVING—Green, 78 receptions for 1,227 yards, 15.7 avg., 14 TDs...1st
INTERCEPTIONS—L. Washington, 8 for 92 yards, 11.5 avg...3rd
PUNTING—Birdsong, 85 punts, 41.5 avg., longest 59 yards...5th
PUNT RETURNS—Mitchell, 38 for 337 yards, 8.9 avg...7th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Mitchell, 36 for 778 yards, 21.6 avg...7th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|-----------------|
| August | 4 | At Chicago (N) |
| | 10 | KANSAS CITY (N) |
| | 17 | At Seattle (N) |
| | 24 | MINNESOTA (N) |

| 1984 SCHEDULE | | 1983 SCORES |
|----------------------|----|--------------------------|
| September | 2 | At Green Bay |
| | 9 | BUFFALO |
| | 16 | At Indianapolis |
| | 23 | At New Orleans |
| | 30 | MIAMI |
| October | 7 | At Dallas |
| | 14 | CHICAGO |
| | 21 | WASHINGTON |
| | 28 | At Philadelphia |
| November | 4 | LOS ANGELES RAMS |
| | 11 | DALLAS |
| | 18 | At New York Giants |
| | 25 | PHILADELPHIA |
| December | 2 | At New England |
| | 9 | NEW YORK GIANTS |
| | 16 | (ovt) 20-20 |
| | | 7-45 |

1,085 yards to pass Leroy Kelly on the all-time list in just his sixth season. When he runs hard, few backs are better. At fullback, Wayne Morris provides a steady influence as well as competent blocking. Stump Mitchell is more than an adequate replacement for Anderson and will once again push for more playing time. Randy Love, Earl Ferrell, and Willard Harrell lend depth.

The Cardinals boast great promise in their offensive line. Tackles Tootie Robbins and Luis Sharpe are veterans starting their third seasons, but like most young blockers they are better in run situations than pass protection. Center Randy Clark will get competition from 6-4, 300-pound Carlos Scott, who is closer in size to former center Dan Dierdorf. The situation at guard is ripe for change, too. Right guard Joe Bostic is coming back from an off year and veteran Terry Stieve faces a challenge from converted defensive tackle Ramsey Dardar. Hanifan, an expert on building offensive lines, thinks Dardar can bolster the pass blocking and is too good an athlete to play backup on defense. "He's our No. 1 draft choice this year. I drafted him from defense," said Hanifan. Dawson is another possibility. Art Plunkett and Dan Audick are experienced backups at guard and tackle.

The Cardinals' front four led the league in sacks last season. Right end Curtis Greer is coming off his finest season, with a team-leading 16 sacks, third-best in the NFL. His play convinced coach Floyd Peters to move former

all-pro right end Al Baker to the left side after acquiring him from Detroit. Baker proved he could make the switch, not as simple as it may seem. He recorded 13 1/2 sacks and led the linemen in tackles. Baker also intercepted two passes and knocked down three others. Left tackle David Galloway bounced back from a disappointing rookie season. He benefited from playing next to steady right tackle Elois Grooms, who showed amazing versatility by playing out of position. Once an end, Grooms gives away 30 pounds to some blockers yet still manages to shut down the run. His 40-yard touchdown run with a fumble against the Raiders sparked the 34-24 Cardinal victory. Stafford Mays and Mark Duda played well enough in reserve roles to allow the switch of Dardar to offense.

Linebacking is strong merely because of the presence of E.J. Junior, who was sensational despite shifting from the middle to the outside. He had 7 1/2 sacks and led the linebackers in tackles. Bob Harris was developing fast as a rookie on the right side before a knee injury forced Junior to fill in. Harris was a safety in college who made a remarkable transition. Charlie Baker is steady on the left side. Dave Ahrens, Kurt Allerman, and Craig Shaffer are reserves.

The St. Louis running game features the outstanding O.J. Anderson (#32) and Stump Mitchell (#30), who'd like more playing time.

Rookies boosted the Cardinal secondary considerably in 1983. Lionel Washington played so well at left cornerback that Hanifan has him ticketed for the Pro Bowl. His eight interceptions led the club and tied him for second in the league. Cedric Mack also showed he can play cornerback as a rookie. Veteran Wayne Smith will be pushed at right cornerback when Jeff Griffin returns from injury. Two other rookies, George Schmitt and Leonard Smith, proved capable reserves. The Cardinals' safeties, Lee Nelson and Benny Perrin, finished 1-2 on the team in tackles, an unusual accomplishment for safeties.

Punter Carl Birdsong earned all-pro honors with his 41.5 gross average. Place-kicker Neil O'Donoghue embodied the team personality. He had his rough times, missing three field goals in overtime in a 20-20 tie with the Giants.

CARDINALS VETERAN ROSTER

| name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|-----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| 58 Ahrens, Dave | LB | 6-3 | 228 | 4 | 26 | Wisconsin |
| 51 Alleman, Kurt | LB | 6-2 | 222 | 8 | 34 | Penn St. |
| 32 Anderson, Ottis | RB | 6-2 | 220 | 6 | 27 | Miami |
| 61 Audick, Dan | G | 6-3 | 253 | 7 | 30 | Hawaii |
| 60 Baker, Al | DE | 6-6 | 260 | 7 | 28 | Colorado St. |
| 52 Baker, Charlie | LB | 6-2 | 217 | 5 | 27 | New Mexico |
| 82 Bird, Steve | WR | 5-11 | 171 | 2 | 24 | E. Kentucky |
| 18 Birdsong, Carl | P | 6-0 | 192 | 4 | 25 | S.W. Oklahoma |
| 71 Bostic, Joe | G | 6-3 | 265 | 6 | 27 | Clemson |
| 64 Clark, Randy | C | 6-3 | 254 | 5 | 27 | Northern Illinois |
| 59 Davis, Paul | LB | 6-3 | 210 | 4 | 26 | North Carolina |
| 73 Duda, Mark | DT | 6-3 | 263 | 2 | 23 | Maryland |
| 31 Ferrell, Dan | RB | 6-0 | 215 | 3 | 26 | East Tenn St. |
| 65 Galloway, David | DT | 6-3 | 277 | 3 | 25 | Florida |
| 81 Green, Roy | WR | 6-0 | 195 | 6 | 27 | Henderson |
| 75 Greer, Curtis | DE | 6-4 | 252 | 5 | 27 | Michigan |
| 35 Griffin, Jeff | CB | 6-0 | 185 | 4 | 26 | Utah |
| 78 Grooms, Elois | DE | 6-4 | 250 | 9 | 31 | Tenn Tech |
| 39 Harrell, Willard | RB | 5-8 | 182 | 10 | 32 | Pacific |
| 50 Harris, Bob | LB | 6-2 | 205 | 2 | 24 | Auburn |
| 46 Hefflin, Victor | CB | 6-0 | 184 | 2 | 24 | Delaware St. |
| 54 Junior, E.J. | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 4 | 25 | Alabama |
| 89 La Fleur, Greg | TE | 6-4 | 236 | 4 | 26 | LSU |
| 16 Lisch, Rusty | QB | 6-4 | 213 | 5 | 28 | Notre Dame |
| 15 Lomax, Nell | QB | 6-3 | 215 | 4 | 25 | Portland St. |
| 40 Love, Randy | FB | 6-1 | 205 | 6 | 28 | Houston |
| 47 Mack, Cedric | CB | 6-0 | 190 | 2 | 24 | Baylor |
| 80 Marsh, Doug | TE | 6-3 | 240 | 5 | 26 | Michigan |
| 76 Mays, Stafford | DE | 6-2 | 250 | 5 | 26 | Washington |
| 87 McGill, Eddie | TE | 6-6 | 225 | 3 | 24 | W. Carolina |
| 30 Mitchell, Stump | RB | 5-9 | 188 | 4 | 25 | Citadel |
| 24 Morris, Wayne | RB | 6-0 | 210 | 9 | 30 | SMU |
| 38 Nelson, Lee | S | 5-10 | 185 | 9 | 30 | Florida St. |
| 11 O'Donoghue, Neil | K | 6-6 | 204 | 8 | 31 | Auburn |
| 57 Parlaevichio, Chet | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 2 | 24 | Penn St. |
| 23 Perrin, Benny | S | 6-2 | 178 | 3 | 25 | Alabama |
| 82 Pittman, Danny | WR | 6-2 | 205 | 5 | 26 | Wyoming |
| 70 Plunkett, Art | T | 6-8 | 262 | 4 | 25 | UNLV |
| 63 Robbins, Tootie | T | 6-4 | 278 | 3 | 26 | East Carolina |
| 26 Schmitt, George | S | 5-11 | 193 | 2 | 23 | Delaware |
| 52 Scott, Carlos | C | 6-4 | 300 | 2 | 24 | Texas-El Paso |
| 53 Shaffer, Craig | LB | 6-0 | 230 | 3 | 25 | Indiana St. |
| 67 Sharpe, Luis | T | 6-4 | 260 | 3 | 24 | UCLA |
| 84 Shumann, Mike | WR | 6-1 | 185 | 7 | 29 | Florida St. |
| 45 Smith, Leonard | S | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | 24 | McNeese St. |
| 44 Smith, Wayne | CB | 6-0 | 175 | 5 | 27 | Purdue |
| 68 Stieve, Terry | G | 6-2 | 265 | 8 | 30 | Wisconsin |
| 83 Tilley, Pat | WR | 5-10 | 178 | 9 | 31 | Louisiana Tech |
| 48 Washington, Lionel | CB | 6-0 | 184 | 2 | 24 | Tulane |
| 55 Whitaker, Bill | LB | 6-0 | 182 | 4 | 25 | Missouri |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Duncan, Clyde | WR | 6-1 | 192 | Tennessee |
| 2 | Dawson, Doug | OG | 6-3 | 267 | Texas |
| 3 | McIvor, Rick | QB | 6-4 | 210 | Texas |
| 4 | Bayless, Martin | DB | 6-2 | 195 | Bowling Green |
| 5 | Leidig, Jeff | LB | 6-4 | 240 | Texas |
| 5 | Goode, John | TE | 6-2 | 222 | Youngstown St. |
| 6 | Clark, Rod | LB | 6-2 | 228 | SW Texas St. |
| 7 | Walker, Quentin | RB | 6-1 | 200 | Virginia |
| 8 | Noga, Falaniko | LB | 6-1 | 230 | Hawaii |
| 8 | Paulling, Bob | K | 6-2 | 188 | Clemson |
| 9 | Walker, John | RB | 6-0 | 205 | Texas |
| 10 | Smythe, Mark | DT | 6-3 | 265 | Indiana |
| 11 | Mackey, Kyle | QB | 6-2 | 220 | E. Texas St. |
| 12 | Parker, Paul | OG | 6-3 | 280 | Oklahoma |





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Championship
3rd Place Winning %
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\$24,130



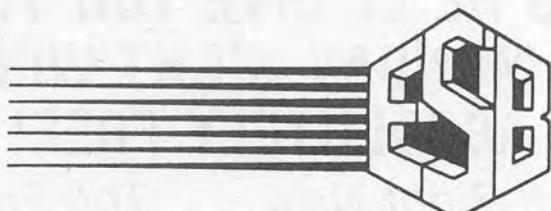
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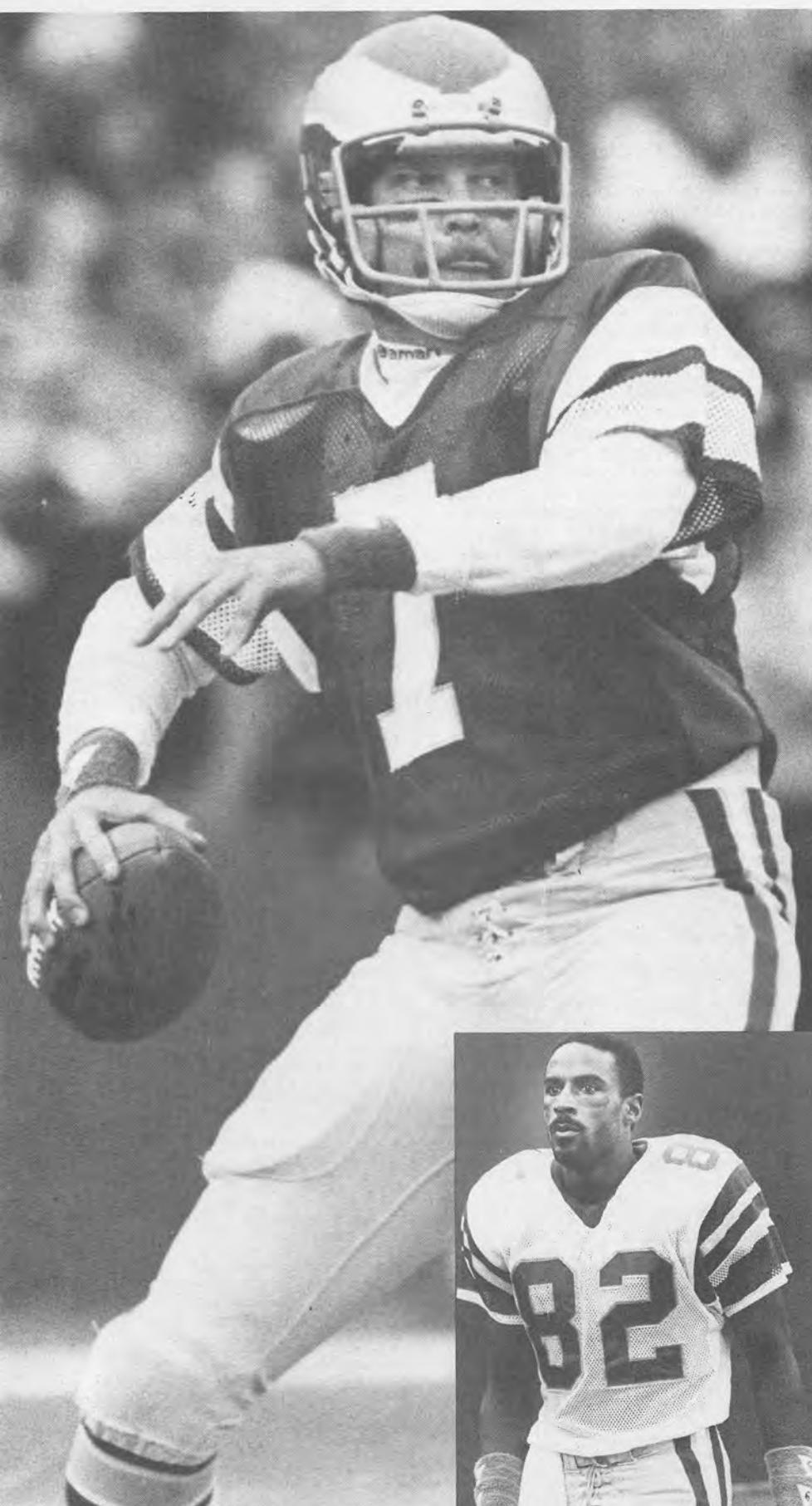
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PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

The Eagles finished ahead of the Giants in the standings but lost 23-0 to them in the twelfth week of the season. Observers thought the franchise had reached rock bottom until they saw the season finale, when the Eagles lost 31-7 to another East rival, the Cardinals.

Are the Eagles that bad? Or can they blame their misfortune on injury to Wilbert Montgomery and some bad breaks here and there? No doubt Montgomery's absence had its ill effects. The Eagles rushed for ten yards in the Giants' game without their talented halfback. They rushed for 14 against the Cardinals, but six of them came on a fake punt by Max Runager. Montgomery makes the Eagles a different team. How different is the question for 1984. He is expected back, having recovered from arthroscopic knee surgery. But Montgomery has been injury-prone in the past, so the Eagles know they cannot put all their eggs in one nest.

Coach Marion Campbell points to a poor turnover ratio as the primary problem for the 1983 record. With only eight interceptions, a league low, the Eagles finished minus 13 in turnovers. Only the Giants, Packers, and Chargers were worse. One other team also finished minus 13 in turnovers. That was the world champion Los Angeles Raiders. They had the talent to overcome mistakes. Most teams, including the Eagles, do not.

Ron Jaworski was sacked 55 times last season, more than any other quarterback in the league. But he is back for more in his eleventh season. Under last year's circumstances, it is amazing he threw more touchdown passes (20) than interceptions (18). Jaworski, who still throws deep as accurately as anyone, can figure on throwing more to backs, especially if Montgomery remains healthy. Operating behind Jaworski is veteran Joe Pisarcik, who threw only 34 passes in 1983.

Jaworski's favorite target was Mike Quick, who had a remarkable second season. Despite double teams and defenses that didn't have to worry much about the run, Quick led the league in receiving yardage, catching 69 passes for 1,409 yards and scoring 13 of the team's 27 touchdowns. His yardage was the most in the league since Don Maynard of the Jets had 1,434 in 1967. Quick was so effective that eyebrows were raised when Campbell went after Penn State wide receiver Kenny Jackson as the fourth player in the draft. Jackson is not particularly big at 5-11, 175, but he will fight for the ball and can block. He is expected to take the pressure off Quick just as quickly as he can get into the lineup. Tony Woodruff, Glen Young, and Melvin Hoover also are vying for the job held so long by the departed Harold Carmichael. Woodruff caught only six passes last year, but two were for touchdowns.

Montgomery wasn't the only missing man from the Eagle offense. Whenever Campbell mentioned the absence of his star, he includ-

Quarterback Ron Jaworski and wide receiver Mike Quick of the Eagles

ed tight end John Spagnola in the conversation. A leader and starter, Spagnola also must regain his spot for the Eagles to be effective. He is used in motion and lines up in the backfield, giving the Eagles another dimension. Lawrence Sampleton and Vito Kab are backups with potential.

Montgomery's return enables last year's No. 1 draft choice, Michael Haddix, to move to his natural position of fullback. A good blocker with 4.5 speed, Haddix was a disappointment and had trouble by fumbling. A fourth-round rookie, Michael Williams, turned into the slashing runner Haddix was supposed to be. He will back up Montgomery. At fullback, Haddix will compete with last year's leading rusher, Hubie Oliver. With Montgomery and Oliver, Jaworski has good receivers for dumping the ball. Fourth-round draft choice Andre Hardy from St. Mary's in California can return kicks as well as provide running-back depth.

The sacks of Jaworski have prompted changes in the offensive line. Center Guy Morris is gone, and Mark Dennard was obtained

if the Eagles can force other teams to pass, they might get more interceptions.

Veteran end Carl Hairston and veteran linebacker Frank LeMaster were traded away to make way for new blood. Left end Dennis Harrison is the Eagles' best defensive lineman. His 11 1/2 sacks led the team. Right end Greg Bown had 8 1/2. Ken Clarke and Harvey Armstrong alternate at nose tackle, and second-year prospects Byron Darby and Tom Straubers will vie for playing time at ends. Darby is a converted linebacker.

The Eagles have fast, mobile linebackers who saw more action than they might like last year. Inside backers Jerry Robinson and Anthony Griggs were 1-2 in tackles, with right outside linebacker Joel Williams fourth. Second-year man Jody Schulz, who was on injured reserve as a rookie, could push Reggie Wilkes at left linebacker. Williams will benefit from a training camp that he missed last year before the Eagles acquired him from the Falcons. Robinson is on the verge of an all-pro berth. Bill Cowher is a good backup.

Changes in the secondary helped shore up Campbell's defense. Second-year man Wes Hopkins became a leader at free safety. He was joined by Ray Ellis at strong safety late in the season. Cornerbacks Roynell Young and Herman Edwards have the ability to get the job done, but they made only one interception apiece last year. Brenard Wilson is a competent backup and nickel back. Third-round pick Evan Cooper of Michigan is a hard hitter who led the Big Ten in punt returns.

The Eagles moved to improve their special teams by unloading place-kicker Tony Franklin. Two late-round draft picks, Manny Matsakis of Capital and Paul McFadden of Youngstown State, will compete for the job. Punter Max Runager was cut during the season, but performed well after he was re-signed.



Philadelphia linebacker Jerry Robinson (#56) and defensive end Dennis Harrison (above right)

in a trade with Miami. Left tackle Stan Walters retired and was replaced by former guard Dean Miraldi, who has trouble keeping his weight up. Jerry Sisemore is back for another season at right tackle, where former defensive end Leonard Mitchell is also a factor. Steve Kenney and Ron Baker are the starting guards, backed by Jim Fritzsche, Gerry Feehery, and Pete Perot. Campbell spent two of his first five draft choices on tackles Rusty Russell of South Carolina and Scott Raridan of Nebraska. Raridan could play guard.

The Eagles' inability to control the ball on the ground was not appreciated by the Eagles' defense. It was on the field more than its fair share of the time; the result was 27th against the rush. It was second against the pass, but that was in part due to an inability to stop the run. Other teams didn't have to pass.



EAGLES VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| 96 Armstrong, Harvey | NT | 6-2 | 255 | 3 | 25 | SMU |
| 63 Baker, Ron | G | 6-4 | 250 | 7 | 30 | Oklahoma St. |
| 98 Brown, Greg | DE | 6-5 | 240 | 4 | 27 | Kansas St. |
| 71 Clarke, Ken | NT | 6-2 | 255 | 7 | 28 | Syracuse |
| 57 Cowher, Bill | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 4 | 27 | N.C. St. |
| 49 Darby, Byron | DE | 6-4 | 250 | 2 | 24 | Southern Cal |
| 25 De Vaughn, Denolis | CB | 5-10 | 175 | 3 | 24 | Bishop |
| 63 Dennard, Mark | C | 6-1 | 252 | 6 | 29 | Texas A&M |
| 46 Edwards, Herman | CB | 6-0 | 190 | 8 | 30 | San Diego St. |
| 24 Ellis, Ray | SS | 6-1 | 192 | 4 | 25 | Ohio St. |
| 39 Everett, Major | RB | 5-10 | 207 | 2 | 24 | Miss College |
| 67 Feehery, Gerry | OL | 6-2 | 268 | 2 | 24 | Syracuse |
| 29 Foules, Elbert | CB | 5-11 | 185 | 2 | 23 | Alcorn St. |
| 72 Fritzsche, Jim | OL | 6-8 | 265 | 2 | 24 | Purdue |
| 58 Griggs, Anthony | LB | 6-3 | 220 | 3 | 24 | Ohio St. |
| 26 Haddix, Michael | RB | 6-2 | 225 | 2 | 23 | Miss St. |
| 35 Harrington, Perry | RB | 5-11 | 210 | 5 | 26 | Jackson St. |
| 68 Harrison, Dennis | DE | 6-8 | 275 | 7 | 28 | Vanderbilt |
| 85 Hoover, Mel | WR | 6-0 | 185 | 3 | 25 | Arizona St. |
| 48 Hopkins, Wes | S | 6-1 | 205 | 2 | 23 | SMU |
| 7 Jaworski, Ron | QB | 6-2 | 196 | 11 | 33 | Youngstown St. |
| 84 Kab, Vito | TE | 6-5 | 240 | 3 | 25 | Penn St. |
| 73 Kenney, Steve | G | 6-4 | 262 | 5 | 29 | Clemson |
| 52 Kraynak, Rich | LB | 6-1 | 221 | 2 | 24 | Pittsburgh |
| 41 Logan, Randy | SS | 6-1 | 195 | 12 | 33 | Michigan |
| 64 Miraldi, Dean | OL | 6-5 | 254 | 2 | 26 | Utah |
| 74 Mitchell, Leonard | T | 6-7 | 272 | 4 | 26 | Houston |
| 31 Montgomery, Wilbert | RB | 5-10 | 195 | 8 | 30 | Abilene Christian |
| 34 Oliver, Hubie | FB | 5-10 | 212 | 4 | 27 | Arizona |
| 62 Perot, Pekey | G | 6-2 | 261 | 5 | 27 | NW Louisiana |
| 9 Pisarcik, Joe | QB | 6-4 | 220 | 8 | 32 | New Mexico St. |
| 82 Quick, Mike | WR | 6-2 | 190 | 3 | 25 | N.C. St. |
| 56 Robinson, Jerry | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 6 | 28 | UCLA |
| 4 Runager, Max | P | 6-1 | 189 | 6 | 28 | South Carolina |
| 87 Sampleton, Lawrence | TE | 6-5 | 233 | 3 | 25 | Texas |
| 53 Schulz, Jody | LB | 6-4 | 235 | 2 | 24 | East Carolina |
| 76 Sisemore, Jerry | T | 6-4 | 265 | 12 | 33 | Texas |
| 88 Spagnola, John | TE | 6-4 | 240 | 5 | 27 | Yale |
| 93 Straubers, Thomas | DE | 6-4 | 255 | 2 | 23 | Jackson St. |
| 54 Valentine, Zack | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 5 | 27 | East Carolina |
| 51 Wilkes, Reggie | LB | 6-4 | 230 | 7 | 28 | Georgia Tech |
| 59 Williams, Joel | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 6 | 28 | Wis-Lacrosse |
| 32 Williams, Michael | RB | 6-2 | 217 | 2 | 23 | Miss College |
| 22 Wilson, Bernard | S | 6-0 | 175 | 6 | 29 | Vanderbilt |
| 83 Woodruff, Tony | WR | 6-0 | 175 | 3 | 26 | Fresno St. |
| 89 Young, Glen | WR | 6-2 | 205 | 2 | 24 | Mississippi St. |
| 43 Young, Roynell | CB | 6-1 | 181 | 5 | 27 | Alcorn St. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-----------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Jackson, Kenny | WR | 5-11 | 180 | Penn St. |
| 3 | Russell, Rusty | OT | 6-6 | 265 | South Carolina |
| 4 | Cooper, Evan | DB | 6-0 | 180 | Michigan |
| 5 | Hardy, Andre | RB | 6-0 | 195 | St. Mary's |
| 6 | Raridan, Scott | OT | 6-5 | 266 | Nebraska |
| 7 | Hayes, Joe | RB | 6-0 | 190 | Central St. |
| 8 | Matsakis, Manny | K | 6-0 | 185 | Capital |
| 10 | Thomas, John | DB | 6-0 | 194 | TCU |
| 11 | Robertson, John | OT | 6-6 | 245 | East Carolina |
| 12 | McFadden, Paul | K | 6-0 | 180 | Youngstown St. |

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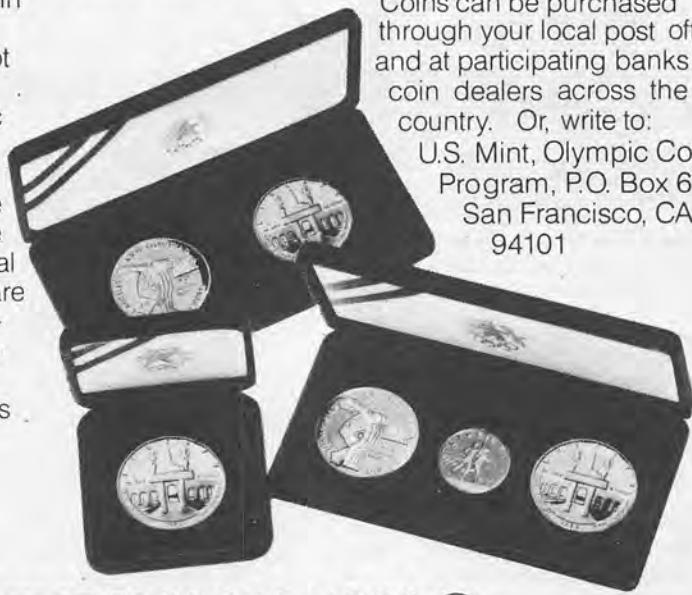
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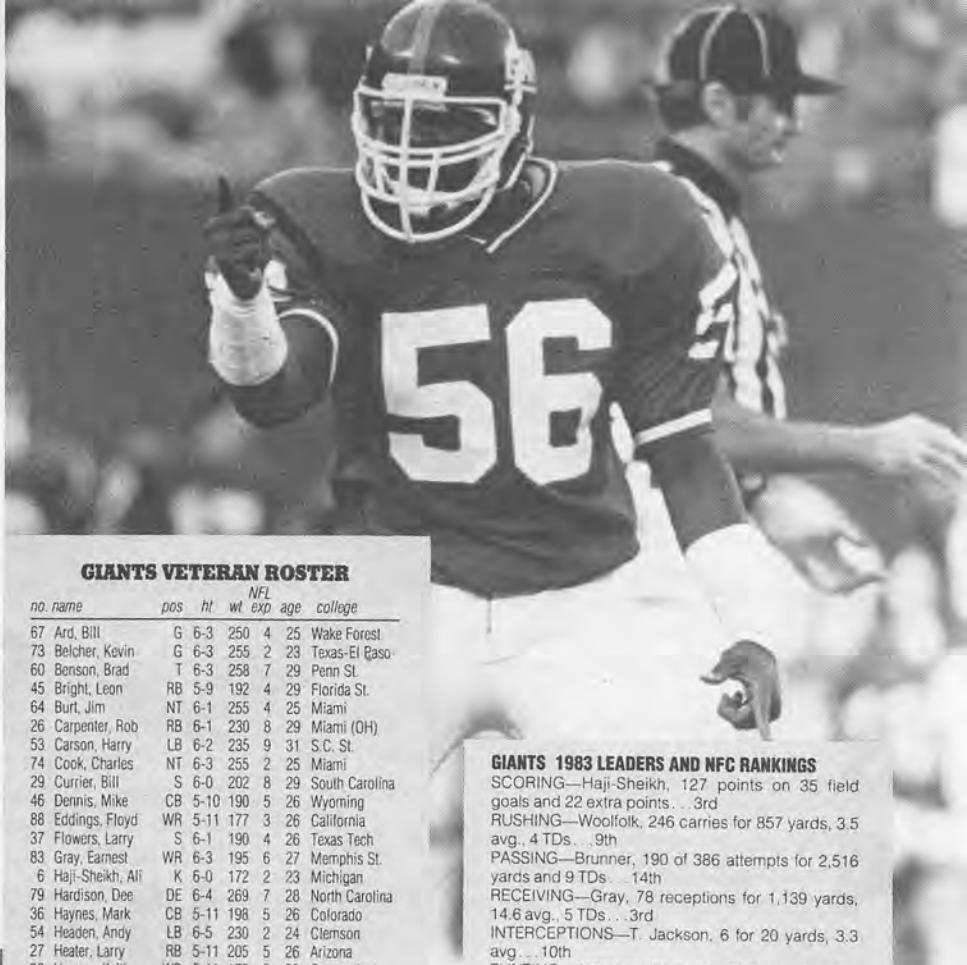
NEW YORK GIANTS

The Giants are poised to be defensive again. Defensive against the run, defensive against the pass, defensive about their own running and passing, defensive about their record, defensive about drafting another defensive player. Armed with the third pick in the draft, they ended up with the "best available athlete," Michigan State linebacker Carl Banks. No one disputes Banks's credentials, it's just that he plays the same position as the Giants' best player, Lawrence Taylor.

The Giants play in a division with two teams that have arrived, Washington and Dallas, and with one that won seven of its last nine games, St. Louis. The Giants, with the worst record in the league since 1973, can only hope. They thought their solid defense had them on the brink until last year's 3-12-1 collapse proved that half a team won't guarantee you will win half your games.

The thing the Giants did most consistently when they had the ball was lose it. They led the league with 58 turnovers, 27 on lost fumbles and 31 on interceptions. Four of the turnovers were returned for touchdowns which led directly to three losses and a tie. The Giants moved the ball well enough to get inside the enemy 20-yard line 49 times. Once there, they laid down their arms and joined the enemy, scoring only 14 touchdowns.

The most confusing thing for Giants' fans to swallow was the apparent efficiency of the offense. It set all-time team records in four categories—total yards, passing yardage, pass



GIANTS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|-------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| 67 Ard, Bill | G | 6-3 | 250 | 4 | 25 | Wake Forest |
| 73 Belcher, Kevin | G | 6-3 | 255 | 2 | 23 | Texas-El Paso |
| 60 Benson, Brad | T | 6-3 | 258 | 7 | 29 | Penn St. |
| 45 Bright, Leon | RB | 5-9 | 192 | 4 | 29 | Florida St. |
| 64 Burt, Jim | NT | 6-1 | 255 | 4 | 25 | Miami |
| 26 Carpenter, Rob | RB | 6-1 | 230 | 8 | 29 | Miami (OH) |
| 53 Carson, Harry | LB | 6-2 | 235 | 9 | 31 | S.C. St. |
| 74 Cook, Charles | NT | 6-3 | 252 | 2 | 25 | Miami |
| 29 Currier, Bill | S | 6-0 | 202 | 8 | 29 | South Carolina |
| 46 Dennis, Mike | CB | 5-10 | 190 | 5 | 26 | Wyoming |
| 88 Eddings, Floyd | WR | 5-11 | 177 | 3 | 26 | California |
| 37 Flowers, Larry | S | 6-1 | 190 | 4 | 26 | Texas Tech |
| 83 Gray, Ernest | WR | 6-3 | 195 | 6 | 27 | Memphis St. |
| 6 Haji-Sheikh, Ali | K | 6-0 | 172 | 2 | 23 | Michigan |
| 79 Hardison, Dee | DE | 6-4 | 269 | 7 | 28 | North Carolina |
| 36 Haynes, Mark | CB | 5-11 | 190 | 5 | 26 | Colorado |
| 54 Headen, Andy | LB | 6-5 | 230 | 2 | 24 | Clemson |
| 27 Heater, Larry | WR | 5-11 | 205 | 5 | 26 | Arizona |
| 82 Hugger, Keith | WR | 5-11 | 175 | 2 | 23 | Connecticut |
| 61 Hughes, Ernie | C | 6-3 | 265 | 6 | 29 | Notre Dame |
| 57 Hunt, Byron | LB | 6-5 | 230 | 4 | 26 | SMU |
| 13 Jennings, Dave | P | 6-4 | 205 | 11 | 32 | St. Lawrence |
| 43 Kinard, Terry | S | 6-1 | 190 | 2 | 25 | Clemson |
| 72 King, Gordon | T | 6-6 | 275 | 7 | 28 | Stanford |
| 70 Marshall, Leonard | DE | 6-3 | 285 | 2 | 23 | LSU |
| 75 Martin, George | DE | 6-4 | 245 | 10 | 31 | Oregon |
| 39 Mayock, Mike | S | 6-2 | 195 | 3 | 26 | Boston College |
| 33 McDaniel, Le Charles | CB | 5-9 | 170 | 4 | 26 | Cal Poly-Obispo |
| 76 McGriff, Curtis | DE | 6-5 | 265 | 5 | 26 | Alabama |
| 52 McLaughlin, Joe | LB | 6-1 | 235 | 6 | 27 | Massachusetts |
| 71 Merrill, Casey | DE | 6-4 | 255 | 6 | 27 | Cal-Davis |
| 87 Miller, Mike | WR | 6-0 | 182 | 2 | 25 | Tennessee |
| 85 Mistler, John | WR | 6-2 | 185 | 4 | 26 | Arizona St. |
| 20 Morris, Joe | RB | 5-7 | 190 | 3 | 24 | Syracuse |
| 84 Mowatt, Zeke | TE | 6-3 | 238 | 2 | 23 | Florida St. |
| 81 Mullady, Tom | TE | 6-3 | 232 | 5 | 27 | Southwestern |
| 77 Neill, Bill | NT | 6-4 | 255 | 4 | 25 | Pittsburgh |
| 9 Owen, Tom | QB | 6-1 | 194 | 11 | 32 | Wichita St. |
| 86 Perkins, Johnny | WR | 6-2 | 205 | 8 | 31 | Abilene Christian |
| 17 Rutledge, Jeff | QB | 6-1 | 190 | 6 | 27 | Alabama |
| 78 Sally, Jerome | DT | 6-3 | 260 | 3 | 25 | Missouri |
| 80 Scott, Malcolm | TE | 6-4 | 240 | 2 | 23 | LSU |
| 44 Shaw, Pete | S | 5-10 | 183 | 8 | 30 | Northwestern |
| 11 Simms, Phil | QB | 6-3 | 216 | 6 | 28 | Morehead St. |
| 63 Steinfeld, Al | C | 6-5 | 256 | 4 | 26 | C.W. Post |
| 65 Tautolo, John | G | 6-3 | 260 | 3 | 25 | UCLA |
| 56 Taylor, Lawrence | LB | 6-3 | 237 | 4 | 25 | North Carolina |
| 38 Tugle, John | RB | 6-1 | 210 | 2 | 23 | California |
| 68 Turner, J.T. | G | 6-3 | 250 | 8 | 31 | Duke |
| 59 Umphrey, Rich | C | 6-3 | 255 | 3 | 26 | Colorado |
| 10 Van Pelt, Brad | LB | 6-5 | 235 | 12 | 33 | Michigan St. |
| 87 Williams, Byron | WR | 6-2 | 180 | 2 | 24 | Texas-Arlington |
| 25 Woolfolk, Butch | RB | 6-1 | 207 | 3 | 24 | Michigan |

Running back Rob Carpenter (above) and linebacker Lawrence Taylor are two of the Giants' assets.

completions, and first downs. Ernest Gray set a club record for pass receiving and place-kicker Ali Haji-Sheikh set a team record for scoring. Woolfolk set an NFL record for most rushing attempts in a game and Haji-Sheikh set a league record for most field goals in a season. Yet the Giants won only one of their last 12 games. They finished with a four-game losing streak.

The prescription again calls for change. Scott Brunner was the quarterback for most of last year. Jeff Rutledge was the backup. This

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Banks, Carl | LB | 6-4 | 232 | Michigan St. |
| 1 | Roberts, Bill | OT | 6-5 | 275 | Ohio St. |
| 3 | Hostettler, Jeff | QB | 6-3 | 215 | West Virginia |
| 4 | Goode, Conrad | OT | 6-6 | 275 | Missouri |
| 4 | Reasons, Gary | LB | 6-4 | 235 | NW Louisiana |
| 5 | Harris, Clint | DB | 5-11 | 205 | East Carolina |
| 6 | Scott, Jim | DE | 6-5 | 260 | Clemson |
| 7 | Manuel, Lionel | WR | 5-11 | 175 | Pacific |
| 10 | Jordan, David | OG | 6-6 | 267 | Auburn |
| 10 | Golden, Heyward | DB | 6-0 | 192 | S.C. St. |
| 11 | Cephus, Frank | RB | 5-10 | 205 | UCLA |
| 12 | Green, Lawrence | LB | 6-2 | 230 | TN-Chattanooga |

GIANTS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Haji-Sheikh, 127 points on 35 field goals and 22 extra points...3rd
RUSHING—Woolfolk, 246 carries for 857 yards, 3.5 avg., 4 TDs...9th
PASSING—Brunner, 190 of 386 attempts for 2,516 yards and 9 TDs...14th
RECEIVING—Gray, 78 receptions for 1,139 yards, 14.6 avg., 5 TDs...3rd
INTERCEPTIONS—T. Jackson, 6 for 20 yards, 3.3 avg...10th
PUNTING—Jennings, 84 punts, 40.3 avg., longest 66 yards...9th
PUNT RETURNS—Shaw, 29 for 234 yards, 8.1 avg...9th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Bright, 21 for 475 yards, 22.6 avg...4th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|---------------------|--------------------|
| August | 3 | At New England (N) |
| 11 | At Indianapolis (N) | |
| 18 | NEW YORK JETS (N) | |
| 25 | PITTSBURGH (N) | |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | 1984 SCHEDULE | 1983 SCORES |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| September 2 | PHILADELPHIA | 13-17 |
| 9 | DALLAS | 20-38 |
| 16 | At Washington | 22-31 |
| 23 | TAMPA BAY | — |
| 30 | At Los Angeles Rams | 6-16 |
| October 8 | SAN FRANCISCO (N) | — |
| 14 | At Atlanta | (ovt) 16-13 |
| 21 | At Philadelphia | 23-0 |
| 28 | WASHINGTON | 17-33 |
| November 4 | At Dallas | 13-28 |
| 11 | At Tampa Bay | — |
| 18 | ST. LOUIS | 6-10 |
| 25 | KANSAS CITY | 17-38 |
| December 2 | At New York Jets | — |
| 9 | At St. Louis | (ovt) 20-20 |
| 15 | NEW ORLEANS | — |

year it's time for Phil Simms to return to the forefront. Brunner went to Denver and third-round draft choice Jeff Hostettler of West Virginia is the new kid on the chopping block. It will be up to Simms to get the Giants into the end zone. They finished ahead of the Raiders in passing yardage and ahead of playoff teams Miami, Seattle, and Detroit in total offense, but ahead of only three teams in scoring. Plagued by injury throughout his career, Simms will get another shot to prove he is the answer. If the situation deteriorates early into a complete rebuilding program, look for Hostettler to get his chance. Described as a natural leader, Hostettler showed at West Virginia he could get out of trouble and find a way to win. Yet one scouting report says: "Will have

to be surrounded by quality talent if he is to lead a team into the playoffs."

Simms wouldn't mind being surrounded by quality talent himself, especially blocking talent (the quarterbacks were sacked 49 times last year). To that end, coach Bill Parcells committed himself to tackles Bill Roberts of Ohio State in the second round of the draft and Conrad Goode of Missouri in the fourth. What the Giants would like to do is move left tackle Brad Benson back to guard, where he could bolster a situation manned by Billy Ard and J.T. Turner. Ernie Hughes is the center and John Tautolo filled in for injured Gordon King at right tackle. King is supposed to be the team's most solid offensive lineman, although Benson played well. Second-year prospect Kevin Belcher and third-year man Rich Umphrey could challenge for more time.

The Giants' running game, 22nd in the league, would get better if the blocking improves. But a bigger shot in the arm would be the presence of both Butch Woolfolk and Rob Carpenter in the backfield at the same time. Injuries kept the two accomplished runners separated for too much of 1983. Together, they are expected to provide the kind of balanced rushing attack coaches love. Woolfolk has more speed than his 3.5-yard average showed last year after a poor start. Carpenter keeps defenses honest inside and rushed for 624 yards despite missing six games with a sprained knee. Joe Morris carried only 35 times and special-teams' man John Tugle carried just 17 times. So the running offense

was either Woolfolk or Carpenter, who finished third and fourth on the team in receiving.

Leading the club in receiving was Earnest Gray, who tied St. Louis's Roy Green and Washington's Charlie Brown for most catches in the NFC, with 78, fulfilling the promise he showed in 1980 with 52 catches. He had tailed off to a total of 47 over the next two seasons, including the strike-shortened 1982. John Mistler was the second-leading receiver on the team last year, but second-year man Byron Williams could be the speed receiver the Giants are seeking. Even faster is second-year prospect Mike Miller, who ran with Willie Gault on Tennessee's track team. Floyd Eddings is another former trackman who could be a factor. Zeke Mowatt caught 21 passes as a rookie at tight end. A good blocker, he will again be challenged by veteran Tom Mullady.

If the Giants are to make a move, defense will again carry them. The drafting of Banks indicates they are prepared to get stronger in an area where that hardly seemed possible as recently as last year. With all-pros Lawrence Taylor and Harry Carson lining up with Brian Kelley and former all-pro Brad Van Pelt, linebacker didn't seem like a priority. But Kelley was traded to San Diego and the other three all dropped various hints that they wouldn't mind leaving. So the Giants didn't stop at Banks. They drafted another linebacker, Gary Reasons of Northwest Louisiana State, in the fourth round. At 6-4, 230, Banks has the size to play inside or outside, although he is more naturally suited for the outside. Reasons prob-

ably will stay in the middle. Two other possibilities inside are coming off injured reserve, second-year man Robbie Jones and veteran Joe McLaughlin. And there are also Andy Headen and Byron Hunt.

Up front, the Giants boast a solid pass rusher in George Martin on the left side and some question marks in other places. Bill Neill is penciled in as the nose tackle if he can recover from knee problems. Jerome Sally played the nose well in his absence. Right end Leonard Marshall was a raw rookie with potential who was considerably better against the run than he was against the pass. Dee Hardison and Casey Merrill provide depth on the ends. Jim Burt nursed a bad back last year.

In the secondary, the Giants think they have two more all-pros in cornerback Mark Haynes and free safety Terry Kinard. Left corner Haynes has been there and Kinard showed the promise as a rookie. Right cornerback Terry Jackson was traded to Seattle, but the Giants have replacements in veteran Mike Dennis and Perry Williams, who spent his rookie season on injured reserve. Bill Currier and Pete Shaw are strong-safety candidates, and the Giants have another secondary possibility in USFL player Ken Daniel.

The brightest spot of the year was the place-kicking of rookie Ali Haji-Sheikh, who hit an astonishing 35 of 42 field-goal attempts, including 9 of 12 from the 40-49 range and two 56-yarders. Punter Dave Jennings remains among the league's best; he just wishes he wouldn't have to work so often.

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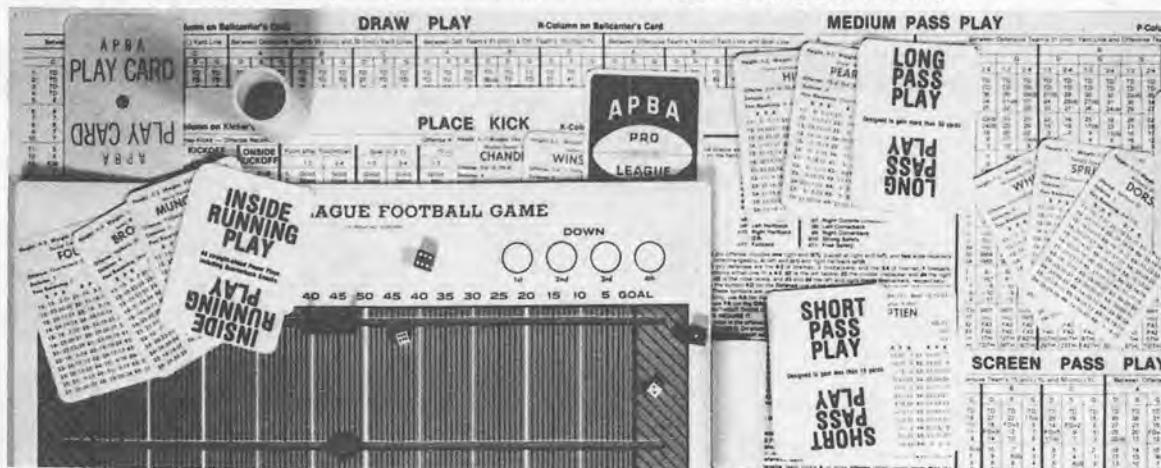
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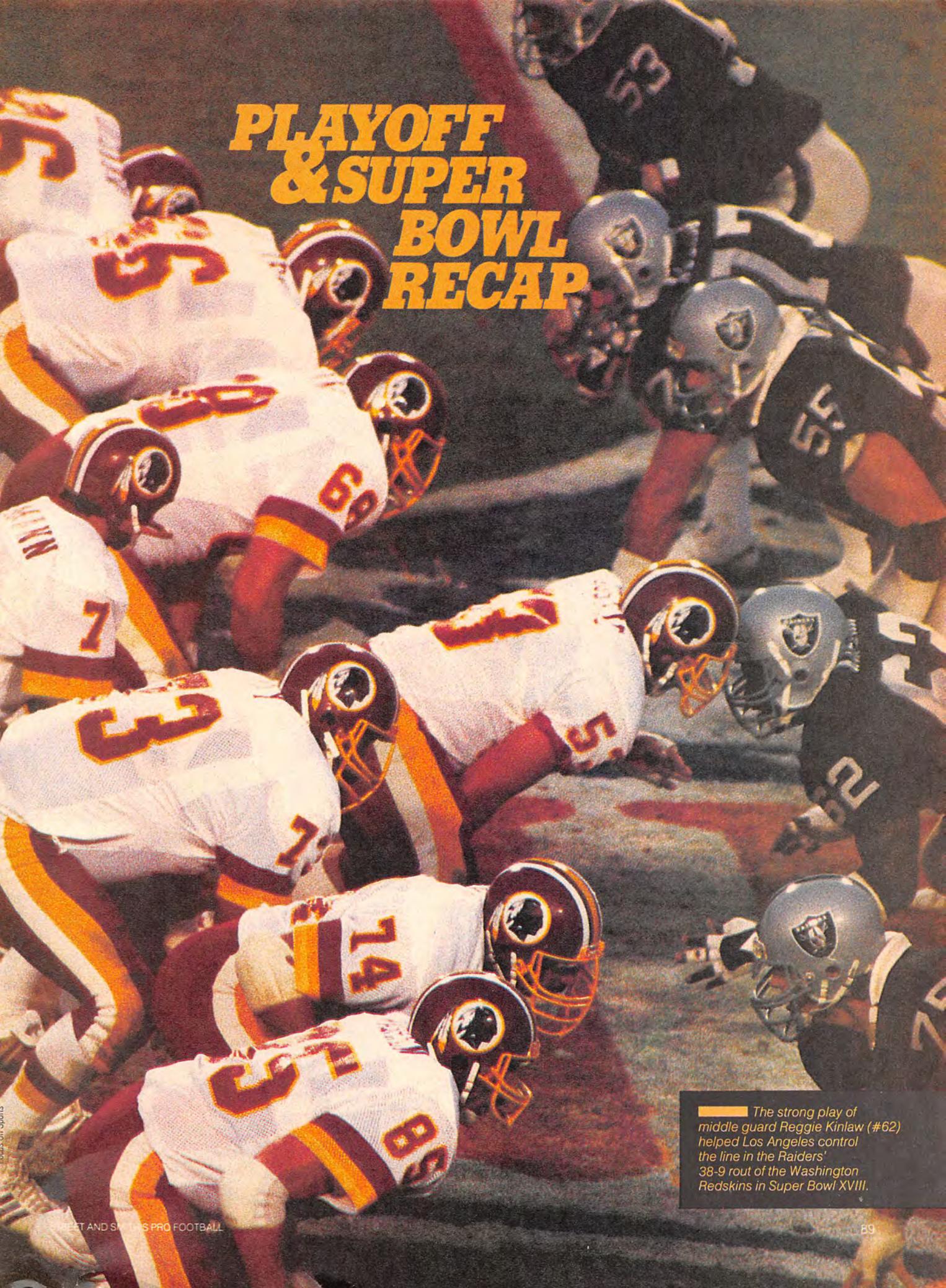
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PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP

The strong play of middle guard Reggie Kinlaw (#62) helped Los Angeles control the line in the Raiders' 38-9 rout of the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl XVIII.

PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP

continued

1983 NFL FINAL STANDINGS

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division

| | W | L | T | Pct. | Pts. | OP |
|-------------|----|---|---|------|------|-----|
| Miami | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 389 | 250 |
| New England | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 274 | 289 |
| Buffalo | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 283 | 351 |
| Baltimore | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 264 | 354 |
| N.Y. Jets | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 313 | 331 |

Central Division

| | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| Pittsburgh | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 355 | 303 |
| Cleveland | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 356 | 342 |
| Cincinnati | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 346 | 302 |
| Houston | 2 | 14 | 0 | .125 | 288 | 460 |

Western Division

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| L.A. Raiders | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 442 | 338 |
| Seattle | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 403 | 397 |
| Denver | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 302 | 327 |
| San Diego | 6 | 10 | 0 | .375 | 358 | 462 |
| Kansas City | 6 | 10 | 0 | .375 | 386 | 367 |

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division

| | W | L | T | Pct. | Pts. | OP |
|--------------|----|----|---|------|------|-----|
| Washington | 14 | 2 | 0 | .875 | 541 | 332 |
| Dallas | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 479 | 360 |
| St. Louis | 8 | 7 | 1 | .531 | 374 | 428 |
| Philadelphia | 5 | 11 | 0 | .313 | 233 | 322 |
| N.Y. Giants | 3 | 12 | 1 | .219 | 267 | 347 |

Central Division

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| Detroit | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 347 | 286 |
| Green Bay | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 429 | 439 |
| Chicago | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 311 | 301 |
| Minnesota | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 316 | 348 |
| Tampa Bay | 2 | 14 | 0 | .125 | 241 | 380 |

Western Division

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| San Francisco | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 432 | 293 |
| L.A. Rams | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 361 | 344 |
| New Orleans | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 319 | 337 |
| Atlanta | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 370 | 389 |

WILD CARD GAMES
Seattle 31, Denver 7 • L.A. Rams 24, Dallas 17

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Seattle 27, Miami 20 • San Francisco 24, Detroit 23
L.A. Raiders 38, Pittsburgh 10 • Washington 51, L.A. Rams 7
CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES
L.A. Raiders 30, Seattle 14 • Washington 24, San Francisco 21
SUPER BOWL
L.A. Raiders 38, Washington 9

Derrick Jensen (#31) blocked Jeff Hayes's punt and then recovered the ball in the end zone for the Raiders' first touchdown in last season's Super Bowl.

AFC WILD CARD GAME

At Seattle, December 24
Denver 7 0 0 0— 7
Seattle 7 3 7.. 14—31

SCORING

Seattle: Largent 17 pass from Krieg (Johnson kick)
Denver: Myles 13 pass from DeBerg (Karlis kick)
Seattle: Field goal Johnson 37
Seattle: Metzelaars 5 pass from Krieg (Johnson kick)
Seattle: Johns 18 pass from Kreig (Johnson kick)
Seattle: Hughes 2 run (Johnson kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

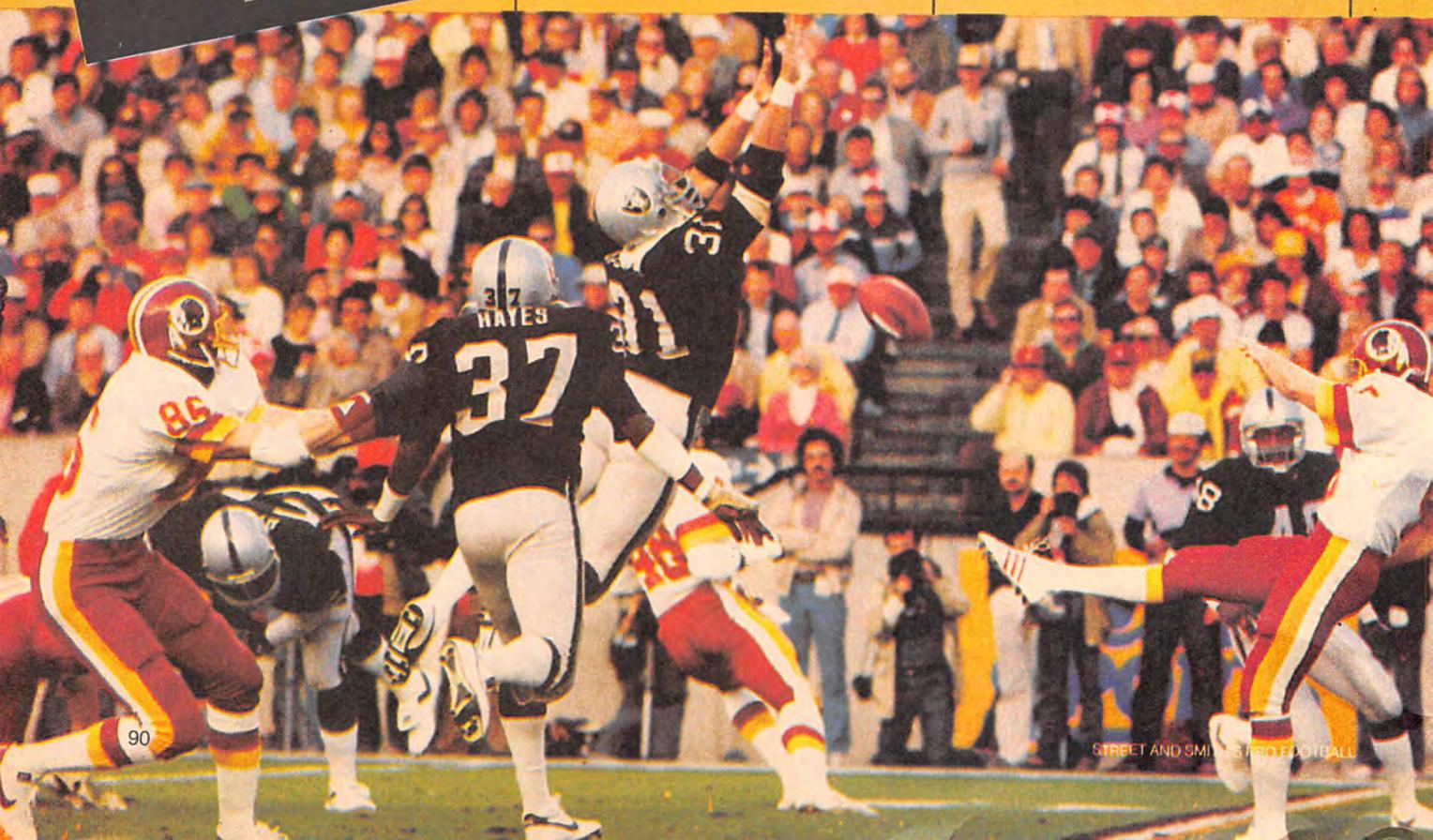
| | Denver | Seattle |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| First downs | 21 | 17 |
| Rushes-yards | 33-125 | 38-145 |
| Passing yards | 235 | 179 |
| Sacks by-yards | 2-21 | 2-19 |
| Return yards | 128 | 146 |
| Passes | 24-32-2 | 12-13-0 |
| Punts | 4-47.8 | 3-41.7 |
| Fumbles-lost | 1-1 | 1-0 |
| Penalties-yards | 5-35 | 3-34 |
| Time of possession | 30:57 | 29:03 |
| Attendance: 60,752 | | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Denver, Winder 16-59, Poole 7-25, Elway 3-16, Willhite 5-16, Sampson 1-8, Watson 1-1; Seattle, Warner 23-99, Hughes 3-16, Bryant 5-15, Krieg 3-9, Dixon 3-4, Zorn 1-2

Passing: Denver, DeBerg 14-19-1—131, Elway 10-15-1—123; Seattle, Krieg 12-13-0—200

Receiving: Denver, Myles 7-73, Watson 4-51, Poole 4-17, Sampson 3-52, Winder 2-13, Thomas 1-19, Egloff 1-16, Wilson 1-12, Willhite 1-1; Seattle, Largent 4-76, Warner 3-22, Johns 2-59, Young 2-38, Metzelaars 1-5



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| | | |
|---------------------|-----|-------------|
| Double Select Plays | 3-0 | 100% |
|---------------------|-----|-------------|

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| | | |
|---------------------|------|------------|
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*Documented in Mike McCusker's *Tipsiders or Gypers*. Send \$17 for Volume 8 of Mike's consumer report to P.O. Box 18477, Las Vegas, NV 89132.

**The
Tall Tall
Texan**

PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP

continued

NFC WILD CARD GAME

At Irving, December 26

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|----|----|
| Los Angeles Rams | 7 | 0 | 7 | 10 | 24 |
| Dallas | 0 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 17 |

SCORING

Los Angeles: D. Hill 18 pass from Ferragamo (Lansford kick)
 Dallas: T. Hill 14 pass from White (Septien kick)
 Dallas: Field goal Septien 41
 Los Angeles: Dennard 16 pass from Ferragamo (Lansford kick)
 Los Angeles: Farmer 8 pass from Ferragamo (Lansford kick)
 Los Angeles: Field goal Lansford 20
 Dallas: Cosbie 2 pass from White (Septien kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Los Angeles | Dallas |
|--------------------|-------------|---------|
| First downs | 19 | 24 |
| Rushes-yards | 30-94 | 20-63 |
| Passing yards | 149 | 300 |
| Sacks by-yards | 3-30 | 2-14 |
| Return yards | 167 | 96 |
| Passes | 16-31-0 | 32-53-3 |
| Punts | 6-37.2 | 5-31.4 |
| Fumbles-lost | 0-0 | 2-1 |
| Penalties-yards | 4-18 | 6-40 |
| Time of possession | 28:35 | 31:25 |
| Attendance | 43,521 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Los Angeles, Dickerson 23-99, Redden 3-5, Ferragamo 4-minus 10; Dallas, Dorsett 17-59, Springs 2-4, D. White 1-0.
 Passing: Los Angeles, Ferragamo 15-30-0—162, Dickerson 1-10—1; Dallas, D. White 32-53-3—330
 Receiving: Los Angeles, Farmer 5-47, Dennard 4-44, Barber 2-20, D. Hill 2-19, Dickerson 2-11, Ellard 1-22; Dallas, T. Hill 9-115, Spring 6-38, Cosbie 5-62, Dorsett 4-12, Johnson 3-20, Pearson 2-49, Newsome 2-25, DuPree 1-9.

AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At Miami, December 31

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|----|---|----|----|
| Seattle | 0 | 7 | 7 | 13 | 27 |
| Miami | 0 | 13 | 0 | 7 | 20 |

SCORING

Miami: D. Johnson 19 pass from Marino (kick failed)
 Seattle: Bryant 6 pass from Krieg (Johnson kick)
 Miami: Duper 32 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
 Seattle: Warner 1 run (Johnson kick)
 Seattle: Field goal Johnson 27
 Miami: Bennett 2 run (von Schamann kick)
 Seattle: Warner 2 run (Johnson kick)
 Seattle: Field goal Johnson 37

Marcus Allen rushed for a Super Bowl record 191 yards, including touchdown runs of 5 and 74 yards, and was named the most valuable player in the game. Here he gets a block from Cliff Branch.

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Seattle | Miami |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| First downs | 21 | 21 |
| Rushes-yards | 42-151 | 30-128 |
| Passing yards | 182 | 193 |
| Return yards | 0 | 50 |
| Passes | 15-29-1 | 15-26-2 |
| Sacks by-yards | 0-0 | 1-9 |
| Punts | 4-38 | 4-36 |
| Fumbles-lost | 0-0 | 3-3 |
| Penalties-yards | 2-15 | 5-30 |
| Time of possession | 34:58 | 25:02 |
| Attendance | 71,032 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Seattle, Warner 29-113, Bryant 5-22, Hughes 4-21, Krieg 4-minus 5; Miami, Overstreet 9-50, Nathan 8-19, Bennett 7-31, Franklin 6-28
 Passing: Seattle, Krieg 15-28-1-192, Zorn 0-1-0-0; Miami, Marino 15-25-2-193, Clayton 0-1-0-0
 Receiving: Seattle, Warner 5-38, Johns 4-60, Largent 2-56, Doornink 2-26, Bryant 2-12; Miami, Duper 9-117, D. Johnson 2-29, Moore 2-26, Rose 1-15, Nathan 1-6.

NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At San Francisco, December 31

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|----|----|
| Detroit | 3 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 23 |
| San Francisco | 7 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 24 |

SCORING

Detroit: Field goal Murray 37
 San Francisco: Craig 1 run (Wersching kick)
 San Francisco: Tyler 2 run (Wersching kick)
 Detroit: Field goal Murray 21
 Detroit: Field goal Murray 54
 San Francisco: Field goal Wersching 19
 Detroit: Sims 11 run (Murray kick)
 Detroit: Sims 3 run (Murray kick)
 San Francisco: Solomon 14 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)

Focus On Sports



TEAM STATISTICS

| | Detroit | San Francisco |
|--------------------|---------|---------------|
| First downs | 22 | 20 |
| Rushes-yards | 35-188 | 27-203 |
| Passing yards | 224 | 188 |
| Return yards | 54 | 41 |
| Passes | 24-38-5 | 18-31-1 |
| Sacks by-yards | 2-13 | 2-12 |
| Punts | 2-37 | 5-35 |
| Fumbles-lost | 2-0 | 2-1 |
| Penalties-yards | 7-63 | 5-25 |
| Time of possession | 33:53 | 26:07 |
| Attendance | 58,286 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Detroit, Sims 20-114, Jones 10-33, L. Thompson 1-24, Danielson 4-17; San Francisco, Tyler 17-74, Montana 3-16, Craig 7-13
 Passing: Detroit, Danielson 24-38-5-236; San Francisco, Montana 18-31-1-201
 Receiving: Detroit, L. Thompson 6-74, Chadwick 5-58, Jones 5-44, Sims 4-26, Scott 3-29, Norris 1-5; San Francisco, Craig 7-61, Francis 4-75, Solomon 2-16, Tyler 2-15, Wilson 1-26, Ramson 1-4, Moore 1-4.

AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At Los Angeles, January 1

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|----|----|---|----|
| Pittsburgh | 3 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 10 |
| Los Angeles Raiders | 7 | 10 | 21 | 0 | 38 |

SCORING

Pittsburgh: Field goal Anderson 17
 Los Angeles: Hayes 18 interception return (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Allen 4 run (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Field goal Bahr 45
 Los Angeles: King 9 run (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Allen 49 run (Bahr kick)
 Pittsburgh: Stallworth 58 pass from Stoudt (Anderson kick)
 Los Angeles: Hawkins 2 run (Bahr kick)

PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP

continued

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Pittsburgh | Los Angeles |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| First downs | 17 | 24 |
| Rushes-yards | 32-162 | 33-188 |
| Passing yards | 169 | 225 |
| Return yards | 21 | 70 |
| Passes | 13-27-1 | 21-34-0 |
| Sacks by-yards | 1-7 | 5-40 |
| Punts | 8-41 | 6-41 |
| Fumbles-lost | 2-1 | 2-0 |
| Penalties-yards | 4-30 | 2-15 |
| Time of possession | 28:46 | 31:14 |
| Attendance | 90,334 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Pittsburgh, Stoudt 9-50, Pollard 9-37, Abercrombie 6-36, F. Harris 6-33, Odom 1-4, T. Harris 1-2; Los Angeles, Allen 13-121, Hawkins 10-25, Plunkett 2-23, King 6-20, Guy 1-2, Wilson 1-minus 3.
Passing: Pittsburgh, Stoudt 10-20-1-187, Malone 3-7-0-22; Los Angeles, Plunkett 21-34-0-232.
Receiving: Pittsburgh, F. Harris 4-31, Capers 2-54, Cunningham 2-32, Sweeney 2-24, Stallworth 1-58, Odom 1-6, Abercrombie 1-4; Los Angeles, Christensen 7-88, Branch 6-76, Allen 5-38, Barnwell 3-30.

NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At Washington, January 1

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|---|---|----|
| Los Angeles Rams | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Washington | 17 | 21 | 6 | 7 | 51 |

SCORING

Washington: Riggins 3 run (Moseley kick)
 Washington: Monk 40 pass from Theismann (Moseley kick)
 Washington: Field goal Moseley 42
 Washington: Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)
 Los Angeles: Dennard 32 pass from Ferragamo (Lansford kick)
 Washington: Monk 21 pass from Theismann (Moseley kick)
 Washington: Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)
 Washington: Field goal Moseley 36
 Washington: Field goal Moseley 41
 Washington: Green 72 interception return (Moseley kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Los Angeles | Washington |
|--------------------|-------------|------------|
| First downs | 12 | 23 |
| Rushes-yards | 16-51 | 40-130 |
| Passing yards | 153 | 315 |
| Return yards | 4 | 200 |
| Passes | 20-43-3 | 20-25-0 |
| Sacks by-yards | 0-0 | 3-22 |
| Punts | 7-33 | 3-28 |
| Fumbles-lost | 2-1 | 2-1 |
| Penalties-yards | 7-41 | 6-55 |
| Time of possession | 24:35 | 35:25 |
| Attendance | 55,363 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Los Angeles, Jones 4-28, Dickerson 10-16, Redden 2-7; Washington, Riggins 25-119, Giaquinto 4-9, Evans 3-4, Wonsley 2-3, Washington 5-minus 2, Holly 1-minus 3.
Passing: Los Angeles, Ferragamo 20-43-3-175; Washington, Theismann 18-23-0-302, Holly 2-2-0-13.
Receiving: Los Angeles, Dickerson 6-9, Guman 5-29, Barber 3-42, Ellard 3-39, Dennard 2-50, Hill 1-6; Washington, Brown 6-171, Monk 4-60, Warren 3-23, Giaquinto 2-17, Garrett 2-13, Walker 1-14, Washington 1-10, Didier 1-7.

AFC CHAMPIONSHIP

At Los Angeles, January 8
 Seattle 0 0 7 7-14
 Los Angeles Raiders 3 17 7 3-30

SCORING

Los Angeles: Field goal Bahr 20
 Los Angeles: Hawkins 1 run (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Hawkins 5 run (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Field goal Bahr 45
 Los Angeles: Allen 3 pass from Plunkett (Bahr kick)
 Seattle: Doornink 11 pass from Zorn (Johnson kick)
 Los Angeles: Field goal Bahr 35
 Seattle: Young 9 pass from Zorn (Johnson kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Seattle | Los Angeles |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|
| First downs | 16 | 21 |
| Rushes-yards | 18-65 | 46-205 |
| Passing yards | 102 | 196 |
| Return yards | 8 | 54 |
| Passes | 17-36-5 | 17-24-2 |
| Sacks by-yards | 2-18 | 4-44 |
| Punts | 5-32 | 2-34 |
| Fumbles-lost | 1-0 | 3-2 |
| Penalties-yards | 2-20 | 7-53 |
| Time of possession | 22:54 | 37:06 |
| Attendance | 88,734 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Seattle, Warner 11-26, Dickson 3-24, Hughes 3-14, C. Bryant 1-1; Los Angeles, Allen 25-154, Plunkett 7-26, Hawkins 10-24, Pruitt 1-4, King 2-0, Wilson 1-minus 3.
Passing: Seattle, Krieg 3-9-3-12, Zorn 14-27-2-134; Los Angeles, Plunkett 17-24-2-214.
Receiving: Seattle, Doornink 6-48, Johns 5-49, Largent 2-25, Warner 2-10, Young 1-9, H. Jackson 1-5; Los Angeles, Allen 7-62, Barnwell 5-116, Christensen 3-14, Branch 2-22.

Raider cornerbacks Lester Hayes (below) and Mike Haynes provided outstanding one-on-one coverage of the Redskin receivers in the Super Bowl.



NFC CHAMPIONSHIP

At Washington, January 8
 San Francisco 0 0 21 21-21
 Washington 0 7 14 3-24

SCORING

Washington: Riggins 4 run (Moseley kick)
 Washington: Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)
 Washington: Brown 70 pass from Theismann (Moseley kick)
 San Francisco: Wilson 5 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)
 San Francisco: Solomon 76 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)
 San Francisco: Wilson 12 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)
 Washington: Field goal Moseley 25

TEAM STATISTICS

| | San Francisco | Washington |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| First downs | 19 | 24 |
| Rushes-yards | 15-80 | 45-172 |
| Passing yards | 345 | 238 |
| Return yards | 7 | 31 |
| Passes | 27-48-1 | 15-27-1 |
| Sacks by-yards | 1-2 | 3-27 |
| Punts | 7-33 | 5-40 |
| Fumbles-lost | 4-2 | 2-1 |
| Penalties-yards | 6-72 | 4-35 |
| Attendance | 55,363 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: San Francisco, Tyler 9-35, Montana 3-42, Craig 3-3; Washington, Riggins 36-123, Washington 6-23, Theismann 2-12, Hayes 1-14.
Passing: San Francisco, Montana 27-48-1—347; Washington, Theismann 14-26-1—229, Riggins 1-1-0—36.
Receiving: San Francisco, Wilson 8-57, Solomon 4-106, Francis 4-48, Ramson 3-47, Nehemiah 3-46, Craig 3-15, Tyler 1-17, Cooper 1-11; Washington, Brown 5-137, Didier 3-61, Monk 3-35, Washington 3-21, Walker 1-11.

SUPER BOWL XVIII

At Tampa, FL, January 22
 Washington 0 3 6 0 9
 Los Angeles Raiders 7 14 14 3 38

SCORING

Los Angeles: Jensen recovery of blocked punt in end zone (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Branch 12 pass from Plunkett (Bahr kick)
 Washington: Field goal Moseley 24
 Los Angeles: Squirek 5 interception return (Bahr kick)
 Washington: Riggins 1 run (kick blocked)
 Los Angeles: Allen 5 run (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Allen 74 run (Bahr kick)
 Los Angeles: Field goal Bahr 21

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Washington | Los Angeles |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| First downs | 19 | 18 |
| Rushes-yards | 32-90 | 33-231 |
| Passing yards | 193 | 154 |
| Return yards | 35 | 13 |
| Passes | 16-35-2 | 16-25-0 |
| Sacks by-yards | 2-18 | 6-50 |
| Punts | 8-32 | 7-43 |
| Fumbles-lost | 1-1 | 3-2 |
| Penalties-yards | 4-62 | 7-56 |
| Time of possession | 30:38 | 29:22 |
| Attendance | 79,920 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Washington, Riggins 26-64, Theismann 3-18, J. Washington 3-8; Los Angeles, Allen 20-191, Pruitt 5-17, King 3-12, Hawkins 3-6, Willis 1-7, Plunkett 1-minus 2.
Passing: Washington, Theismann 16-35-2-243; Los Angeles, Plunkett 16-24-0-172.
Receiving: Washington, Didier 5-65, Brown 3-93, J. Washington 3-20, Giaquinto 2-21, Monk 1-26, Garrett 1-17, Riggins 1-1; Los Angeles, Branch 6-94, Christensen 4-32, Hawkins 2-20, Allen 2-18, King 2-8.

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NFC west

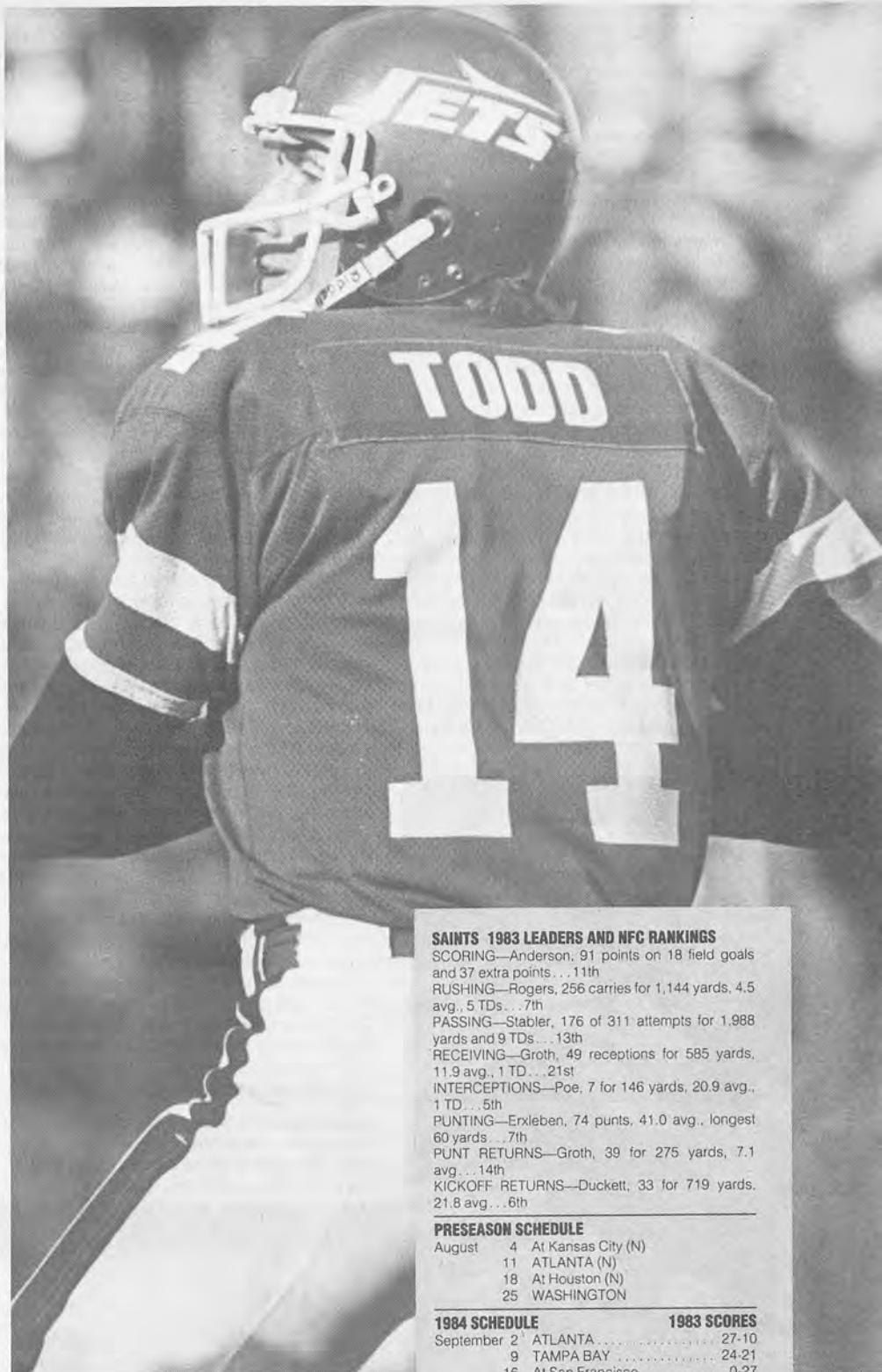
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Six seconds from the playoffs last year, the Saints figure their time has come. A field goal by the Rams with six seconds left in the season finale beat the Saints, 26-24, for an NFC wild-card berth. The Saints finished 8-8. They have never enjoyed a single winning season in their 17-year history, yet they could argue they are better than ever and on the right track. They led the NFC in overall defense, finishing first against the pass and seventh against the run.

All the optimism was present before coach Bum Phillips added quarterback Richard Todd. The Saints finished sixth in the league in rushing, but 26th in passing. If Todd lives up to the potential advertised when he threw for the Jets, the Saints will be a definite factor in the NFC race. They are young and hungry enough to make a run at their division title, provided they can solve the 49ers. They beat the Falcons twice and lost by three and two points to the Rams. But the 49ers whipped them by 19 in one game and shut them out, 27-0, in the other. If they can't beat the 49ers, improvement in other areas won't matter.

Despite the lopsided 49er losses, the Saints were only four first downs away from a 12-4 season. Twice against the Rams, once against the Cowboys, and once against the Jets, they had the lead and the football with the clock running out, but couldn't make the short yardage when needed. Underscoring the need for more punch on offense were problems with turnovers. Phillips's defense forced 39 turnovers, a decent number that was more than wiped out when the offense gave the ball back 47 times. Of the 337 points given up by the Saints, 61 came when the defense was not on the field (three safeties, five interception returns, two punt returns, and a blocked field-goal return). Only the St. Louis Cardinals had more touchdowns scored against them on returns.

The addition of Todd alone makes the Saints considerably stronger on paper. Barring an upset, he looks like the starter ahead of Ken Stabler and Dave Wilson. The 38-year-old "Snake" is coming off more knee surgery, and heir apparent Wilson was unable to throw much in the offseason because of rotator cuff problems. Stabler threw twice as many interceptions (18) as touchdown passes (9). Phillips was "very surprised" that the 30-year-old Todd cost the Saints only one No. 1 draft choice in a year when United States Football League signings left the draft cupboard bare. "This is the best situation I've had at quarterback since I've been a head coach," said Phillips. Bum's first words to Todd were: "Did you ever think you'd see the day when you, me, and Snake would all be Saints?" They'll be angels in New Orleans if they win.



Phillips enjoys luxury in the running-back department, too, when George Rogers and Wayne Wilson are both healthy. Rogers gained 1,144 yards in his third year, and Wilson was the team's all-purpose yardage leader for the second year in a row. Their combined rushing yardage of 1,931 was tops in the NFC. Wilson got much of his yardage

Quarterback Richard Todd joins the Saints from the New York Jets.

SAINTS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Anderson, 91 points on 18 field goals and 37 extra points...11th
RUSHING—Rogers, 256 carries for 1,144 yards, 4.5 avg., 5 TDs...7th
PASSING—Stabler, 176 of 311 attempts for 1,988 yards and 9 TDs...13th
RECEIVING—Groth, 49 receptions for 585 yards, 11.9 avg., 1 TD...21st
INTERCEPTIONS—Poe, 7 for 146 yards, 20.9 avg., 1 TD...5th
PUNTING—Erkleben, 74 punts, 41.0 avg., longest 60 yards...7th
PUNT RETURNS—Groth, 39 for 275 yards, 7.1 avg...14th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Duckett, 33 for 719 yards, 21.8 avg...6th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|--------------------|
| August | 4 | At Kansas City (N) |
| | 11 | ATLANTA (N) |
| | 18 | At Houston (N) |
| | 25 | WASHINGTON |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|----------------|---------------------------|
| September | 2 ¹ | ATLANTA |
| | 9 | TAMPA BAY |
| | 16 | At San Francisco |
| | 23 | ST. LOUIS |
| | 30 | At Houston |
| October | 7 | At Chicago |
| | 14 | (ovt) 34-31 |
| | 21 | LOS ANGELES RAMS |
| | 28 | At Dallas (N) |
| | November | At Cleveland |
| | 4 | GREEN BAY |
| | 11 | At Atlanta |
| | 19 | PITTSBURGH (N) |
| | 25 | SAN FRANCISCO |
| December | 2 | At Los Angeles Rams |
| | 9 | CINCINNATI |
| | 15 | At New York Giants |

when Rogers was injured, so sentiment was for Phillips to play them at the same time. But both are coming off arthroscopic knee surgery, so Phillips may chose to platoon them. Wilson is a better receiver. Tim Wilson and Hokie Gajan are hard-working blocking backs who can complement either Rogers or Wilson.

The Saints' situation at receiver looks healthier than ever despite the unfortunate circumstances of Kenny Duckett, who suffers from diabetes. A marvelous athlete, Duckett is often weakened by the effects of his disease. When he is on, he can break open games with kick returns or receptions. Eugene Goodlow joined the team from Canada last year and wound up ahead of former No. 1 draft choice Lindsay Scott in the lineup. Both of them finished behind possession receiver Jeff Groth in number of catches. Groth is one of those players who is always supposed to lose his job yet never allows anyone to take it. The man to watch at receiver is Tyrone Young, a 6-6 free agent out of Florida who has made big strides between his rookie and second years. He caught only seven passes in 1983, but three went for touchdowns, the most of any wide receiver on the team. During the offseason, he has added 15 pounds and increased his vertical leap and speed. At tight end, steady Hobie Brenner caught 41 passes and also had three TDs. He is backed up by John Tice.

The Saints' offensive line is solid and deep enough to keep former all-pro Leon Gray out of a job. His presence made left tackle Dave Lafary so much better that Gray couldn't start. Stan Brock anchors the right-tackle spot. Brad

Edelman and Louis Oubre started at guard, supported strongly by Steve Korte and Kelvin Clark. At 34, center John Hill is coming off perhaps his best season. He is backed up by Jim Pietrzak. Iowa rookie Joel Hilgenberg joins the competition, and Korte could get a look at center, too.

The most dramatic improvement the Saints have made under Phillips is on defense. Last in the NFL in 1980, they were second in '83, setting a team record with 56 quarterback sacks. Six pass rushers are used in various combinations of the three- and four-man fronts. Starters Bruce Clark, Derland Moore, and Jim Wilks line up in the three-man version. Sometimes the trio is placed en masse by Reggie Lewis, Tony Elliott, and Frank Warren. Phillips added 6-7, 280-pound James Geathers of Wichita State and Don Thorp of Illinois from the draft.

Starting linebackers Rickey Jackson, Jim Kovach, Dennis Winston, and Whitney Paul will be hard to replace as a unit. Reputation is the main difference between the play of Jackson and that of Lawrence Taylor and Hugh Green. Rob Nairne, Chris Martin, Glen Redd, and Scott Peller are reserves.

In the secondary, another area that jumped from the league's worst to the best statistically, cornerbacks Dave Waymer and Johnnie Poe, and safeties Russell Gary and Frank Wattelet form a solid unit. There could be challenges, however. Rodney Lewis is coming off a knee injury and could supplant Waymer, who would then play safety. John Krimm also is coming off a more serious knee injury and could push Wattelet at free safety. Bobby Johnson, the younger brother of Rams' star Johnnie Johnson, is another candidate. Two more draft choices, Georgia's Terry Hoage and Texas's Jitter Fields, could be factors.

Morten Andersen is a strong-legged kicker who is improving. Russell Erxleben is a strong-legged punter who remains an enigma. The Saints finished dead last in net punting, an embarrassment playing in a dome.

"All we need is more experience," says Phillips. "When I first came here, I said we'd turn it around in three years. I believe we did. We can play with anyone. That's a turnaround from the paper-bag days."

Confetti days could be next.

Running back Wayne Wilson (left), linebacker Rob Nairne (below), and wide receiver Eugene Goodlow lead the New Orleans Saints.



SAINTS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 7 Andersen, Morten | K | 6-2 | 210 | 3 | 24 | Michigan St. |
| 47 Austin, Cliff | RB | 6-0 | 190 | 2 | 24 | Clemson |
| 50 Bordelon, Ken | LB | 6-4 | 226 | 7 | 30 | LSU |
| 85 Brenner, Hoby | TE | 6-4 | 240 | 4 | 25 | Southern Cal |
| 67 Brock, Stan | T | 6-6 | 285 | 5 | 26 | Colorado |
| 75 Clark, Bruce | DE | 6-3 | 275 | 3 | 26 | Penn St. |
| 68 Clark, Kelvin | G | 6-3 | 265 | 6 | 28 | Nebraska |
| 83 Duckett, Kenny | WR | 6-0 | 187 | 3 | 25 | Wake Forest |
| 63 Edelman, Brad | G | 6-6 | 265 | 3 | 24 | Missouri |
| 99 Elliott, Tony | NT | 6-2 | 265 | 3 | 25 | North Texas St. |
| 14 Erxleben, Russell | P | 6-4 | 221 | 5 | 27 | Texas |
| 77 Fields, Angelo | T | 6-6 | 314 | 4 | 27 | Michigan St. |
| 46 Gajan, Hokie | RB | 5-11 | 220 | 3 | 25 | LSU |
| 20 Gary, Russell | S | 5-11 | 195 | 4 | 25 | Nebraska |
| 88 Goodlow, Eugene | WR | 6-2 | 190 | 2 | 26 | Kansas St. |
| 72 Gray, Leon | T | 6-3 | 270 | 12 | 33 | Jackson St. |
| 86 Groth, Jeff | WR | 5-10 | 175 | 6 | 27 | Bowling Green |
| 87 Hardy, Larry | TE | 6-3 | 230 | 7 | 28 | Jackson St. |
| 62 Hill, John | C | 6-2 | 260 | 13 | 34 | Lehigh |
| 57 Jackson, Rickey | LB | 6-2 | 240 | 4 | 26 | Pittsburgh |
| 34 Johnson, Bobby | DB | 6-0 | 191 | 2 | 24 | Texas |
| 60 Korte, Steve | G | 6-2 | 270 | 2 | 24 | Arkansas |
| 52 Kovach, Jim | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 6 | 28 | Kentucky |
| 21 Krimm, John | S | 6-2 | 190 | 2 | 24 | Notre Dame |
| 64 Lafary, Dave | T | 6-7 | 280 | 8 | 29 | Purdue |
| 93 Lewis, Gary | NT | 6-3 | 260 | 2 | 23 | Oklahoma St. |
| 98 Lewis, Reggie | DE | 6-2 | 260 | 3 | 30 | San Diego St. |
| 29 Lewis, Rodney | CB | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | 25 | Nebraska |
| 59 Martin, Chris | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 2 | 24 | Auburn |
| 84 Mauti, Rich | WR | 6-0 | 195 | 7 | 30 | Penn St. |
| 19 Merkens, Guido | QB | 6-1 | 195 | 7 | 29 | Sam Houston St. |
| 74 Moore, Derland | NT | 6-4 | 270 | 12 | 33 | Oklahoma |
| 55 Nairne, Rob | LB | 6-4 | 227 | 8 | 30 | Oregon St. |
| 66 Oubre, Louis | G | 6-4 | 262 | 3 | 26 | Oklahoma |
| 51 Paul, Whitney | LB | 6-3 | 220 | 9 | 29 | Colorado |
| 53 Peller, Scott | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 4 | 25 | Washington St. |
| 32 Perry, Vernon | S | 6-2 | 210 | 6 | 31 | Jackson St. |
| 76 Pietrzak, Jim | C | 6-5 | 260 | 10 | 31 | E. Michigan |
| 25 Poe, Johnnie | CB | 6-1 | 185 | 4 | 25 | Missouri |
| 58 Redd, Glen | LB | 6-1 | 225 | 3 | 26 | Brigham Young |
| 38 Rogers, George | RB | 6-2 | 229 | 4 | 26 | South Carolina |
| 41 Rogers, Jimmy | RB | 5-10 | 190 | 5 | 29 | Oklahoma |
| 80 Scott, Lindsay | WR | 6-1 | 190 | 3 | 24 | Georgia |
| 16 Stabler, Ken | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 15 | 39 | Alabama |
| 27 Sternick, Greg | CB | 5-11 | 185 | 10 | 33 | Colorado St. |
| 82 Tice, John | TE | 6-5 | 242 | 2 | 24 | Maryland |
| 13 Todd, Richard | QB | 6-2 | 206 | 9 | 31 | Alabama |
| 73 Warren, Frank | DE | 6-4 | 275 | 4 | 25 | Auburn |
| 49 Wattelet, Frank | S | 6-0 | 185 | 4 | 26 | Kansas |
| 44 Waymer, Dave | CB | 6-1 | 195 | 5 | 26 | Notre Dame |
| 94 Wilks, Jim | DE | 6-5 | 260 | 4 | 26 | San Diego St. |
| 18 Wilson, Dave | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 3 | 25 | Illinois |
| 45 Wilson, Tim | FB | 6-3 | 235 | 8 | 29 | Maryland |
| 30 Wilson, Wayne | RB | 6-3 | 208 | 6 | 27 | Shepherd |
| 56 Winston, Dennis | LB | 6-0 | 230 | 8 | 29 | Arkansas |
| 89 Young, Tyrone | WR | 6-6 | 190 | 2 | 24 | Florida |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 2 | Geathers, James | DE | 6-4 | 250 | Wichita St. |
| 3 | Hoage, Terry | DB | 6-3 | 200 | Georgia |
| 3 | Anthony, Tyrone | RB | 6-1 | 203 | North Carolina |
| 4 | Hilgenberg, Joel | C | 6-3 | 248 | Iowa |
| 5 | Fields, Jitter | DB | 6-0 | 175 | Texas |
| 6 | Thorp, Don | DT | 6-4 | 250 | Illinois |
| 7 | Terrell, Clemon | RB | 6-1 | 223 | S. Mississippi |
| 9 | Hansen, Brian | P | 5-11 | 175 | Sioux Falls |
| 10 | Gray, Paul | LB | 6-2 | 220 | W. Kentucky |
| 11 | Bourgeau, Michel | DE | 6-5 | 250 | Boise St. |
| 12 | Nelson, Byron | OT | 6-6 | 269 | Arizona |

LOS ANGELES RAMS

The Rams ended their upbeat 1983 season on the downtrodden end of a 51-7 slaughter at the hands of the Washington Redskins. Yet they didn't appear to feel as badly about their final game as the Redskins did about their Super Bowl loss. Under new coach John Robinson, the Rams moved back into the playoffs, which seemed more important than what happened when they were there.

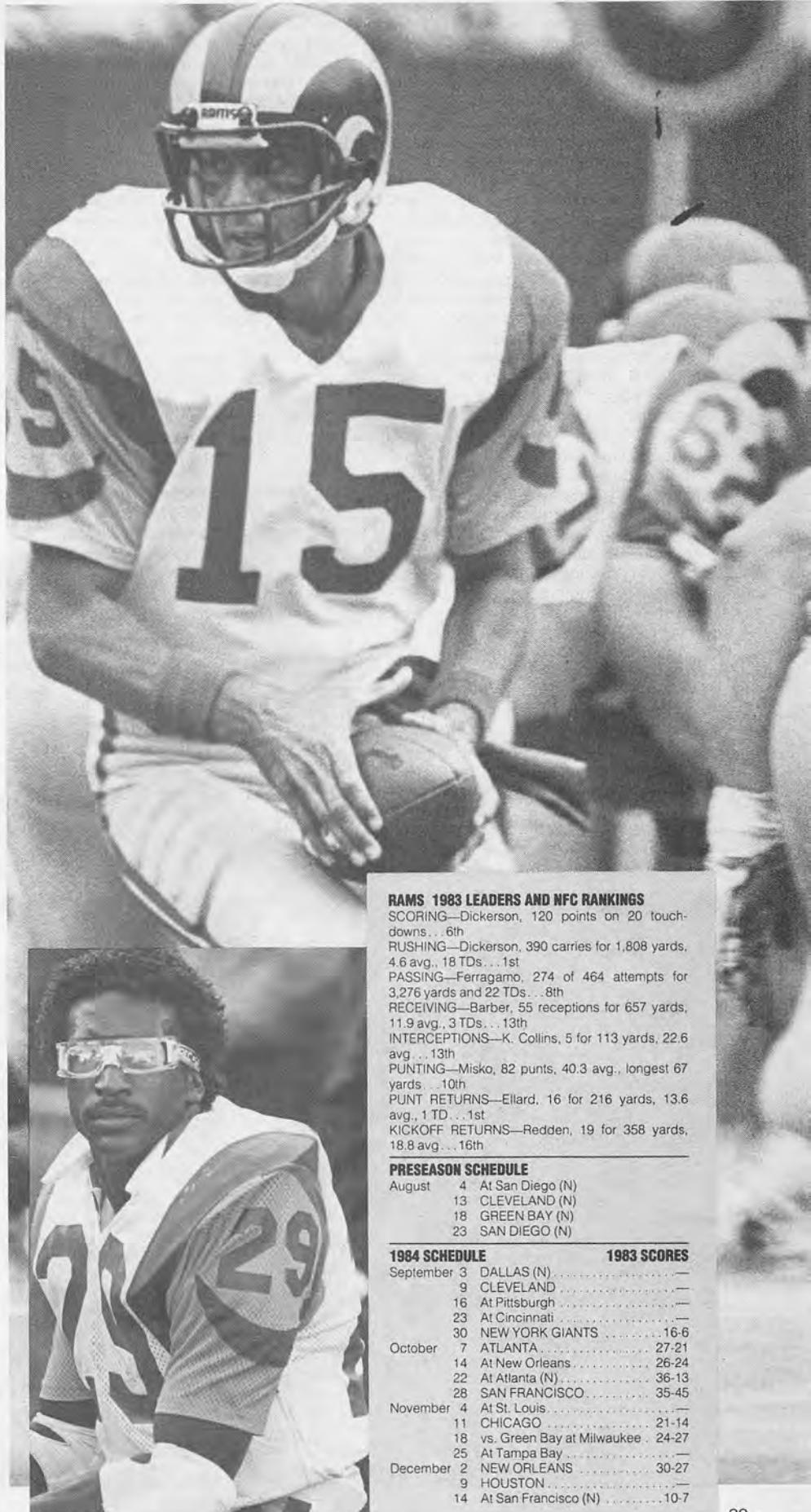
The Rams wasted little time getting started in the right direction for 1984. They know where they want to go and how they want to get there. Mostly they want to continue letting Eric Dickerson take them. But they even promise more help for one of the most exciting players ever to hit the big time. The Rams ran exactly 1,000 offensive plays and Dickerson was the object of 441, running or receiving. His 390 rushing attempts was a league record and his 1,808 yards and 20 touchdowns were Ram marks.

Now the Rams are going to give him help. He will remain the main man in the one-back offense. But Robinson is going to be careful not to crunch him with the weight of the entire load. Barry Redden and A.J. Jones would love more work. Robinson traded with the Houston Oilers for Dwayne Crutchfield to provide more short-yardage power and the Rams intend to sign wide receiver Ron Brown as soon as his Olympic pursuit is finished. Quarterback Vince Ferragamo also figures in some changes. The idea is to keep more than the Rams off Dickerson's back. After a few incredible performances from the speedy 220-pounder, other teams started to catch on. If they assigned two or three defenders to do nothing but shadow Dickerson, they had a good chance of shutting down the Rams.

Robinson thinks if he spreads around the responsibility, the result will be longer post-seasons. At age 30, Ferragamo is ready. For the first time in his career he was able to start from the first week of a season through the last, and he responded with Ram records for passes completed (274) and yards (3,276). He completed 59.1 percent of his passes and threw for 22 touchdowns. The only thing that kept him out of the top passer ratings was 23 interceptions. The Rams showed enough confidence in Ferragamo as their man that they traded away the experienced former Chiefs' No. 1 draft choice Steve Fuller and will enter training camp with only one other veteran, Jeff Kemp, on the roster. Kemp threw only 25 passes last year.

When the Rams sign Brown, they will do at least three things: add speed, add depth, and provide incentive for starters Preston Danner and George Farmer, who had not signed at the time the Rams traded with Cleveland for Brown's rights. Brown didn't catch many passes as a collegian at Arizona State, but

Quarterback Vince Ferragamo and running back Eric Dickerson are the offensive stars of the L.A. Rams



RAMS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Dickerson, 120 points on 20 touchdowns...6th
RUSHING—Dickerson, 390 carries for 1,808 yards, 4.6 avg., 18 TDs...1st
PASSING—Ferragamo, 274 of 464 attempts for 3,276 yards and 22 TDs...8th
RECEIVING—Barber, 55 receptions for 657 yards, 11.9 avg., 3 TDs...13th
INTERCEPTIONS—K. Collins, 5 for 113 yards, 22.6 avg...13th
PUNTING—Misko, 82 punts, 40.3 avg., longest 67 yards...10th
PUNT RETURNS—Ellard, 16 for 216 yards, 13.6 avg., 1 TD...1st
KICKOFF RETURNS—Redden, 19 for 358 yards, 18.8 avg...16th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|------------------|
| August | 4 | At San Diego (N) |
| | 13 | CLEVELAND (N) |
| | 18 | GREEN BAY (N) |
| | 23 | SAN DIEGO (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|-----------|----|----------------------------|-------------|
| September | 3 | DALLAS (N) | 1983 SCORES |
| | 9 | CLEVELAND | — |
| | 16 | At Pittsburgh | — |
| | 23 | At Cincinnati | — |
| | 30 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 16-6 |
| October | 7 | ATLANTA | 27-21 |
| | 14 | At New Orleans | 26-24 |
| | 22 | At Atlanta (N) | 36-13 |
| | 28 | SAN FRANCISCO | 35-45 |
| November | 4 | At St. Louis | — |
| | 11 | CHICAGO | 21-14 |
| | 18 | vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee | 24-27 |
| | 25 | At Tampa Bay | — |
| December | 2 | NEW ORLEANS | 30-27 |
| | 9 | HOUSTON | — |
| | 14 | At San Francisco (N) | 10-7 |

his great speed and football build make him well worth the gamble. Starters Dennard and Farmer caught 73 passes between them, but neither caught as many as tight end Mike Barber (55), or Dickerson (51). Since the thing Ferragamo does best is throw deep, more speed should help. Second-year men Otis Grant and Henry Ellard expect to get more playing time. Barber and David Hill are proven tight ends, and former fullback Mike Guman was effective as the "U-Back," or roving tight end, in the one-back formation.

Few offensive lines are as big, strong, or good as the Rams' front. With Irv Pankey returning from injury, the group will be even stronger in 1984. Left guard Kent Hill and right tackle Jackie Slater played in the Pro Bowl; right guard Dennis Harrah played well enough to deserve postseason consideration. Center Doug Smith and left tackle Bill Bain also were effective, with Bain turning in an especially good season in place of Pankey. Gary Kowalski, Joe Shearin, and Russ Bolinger provide depth.

On draft day, the Rams decided to look for defensive help where they knew they could find it. Instead of taking a chance on a college prospect with the 21st pick in the first round, they packaged the choice along with a fifth-round pick to the Kansas City Chiefs for three-time Pro Bowl cornerback Gary Green. For some reason, the Chiefs feel comfortable dealing Pro Bowl cornerbacks to the Rams, who used to have two of their own in Rod Perry and Pat Thomas. Last year, it was Eric Harris who changed uniforms after the Chiefs gave up on him. It appears that Green will step in immediately at the left-corner spot manned last year by Harris, and Harris will move to the right side to fight for a starting spot with LeRoy Irvin. With Nolan Cromwell a Pro Bowl regular at safety—it doesn't seem to matter whether it's strong or free—the Rams now can line up with three all-stars plus Johnnie Johnson, who may be the most talented of

all. It was Johnson who moved from strong safety to free last year and found time to fill in at the corner when injuries depleted the roster. Backing them up are Ivory Sully, Vince Newsome, and either Irvin or Harris, with a challenge expected from seventh-round draft choice George Radachowsky of Boston College.

The Rams finished 22nd in the league in pass defense, which reflects a pass rush that finished 27th. Up front, the Rams appear to be going with a pat hand, hoping they can get a better pass rush from the people they have. Their first drafted player was defensive end Hal Stephens from East Carolina. But the pick didn't come until the fifth round. That means the Rams plan to line up again with 34-year-old Jack Youngblood at left end, Greg Meisner at nose tackle, and Reggie Doss or Gary Jeter at right end. Youngblood overcame his own doubts about the 3-4 defense and enjoyed such a good season that he is looking forward to No. 14. He led the team in sacks. Jeter finished second in

End Jack Youngblood and tackle Greg Meisner (#69) lead the defensive charge for the Rams.



that category. If he doesn't beat out Doss for the starting job on the 3-4, he still will set plenty of action in pass-rushing situations. Doug Barnett and Charles DeJurnett are reserves.

The Rams lost linebacker Howard Carson to the USFL and waved good-bye to Jim Youngblood, who was picked up in Seattle by former Ram coach Chuck Knox. But the starting four of Mel Owens, Jim Collins, Carl Ekern, and George Andrews remains, with David Lewis, Mike Wilcher, Eric Williams, and Mark Jerue fighting for backup spots. Ekern led the club in solo tackles and assists.

After finishing 20th in gross punting average, the Rams choose Penn State's George Reynolds in the ninth round to challenge John Misko. They also hope last year's rookie place-kicker, Chuck Nelson, will offer stiffer competition for Mike Lansford.

RAMS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| 35 Alexander, Robert | RB | 6-0 | 185 | 3 | 26 | West Virginia |
| 52 Andrews, George | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 6 | 29 | Nebraska |
| 62 Bain, Bill | T | 6-4 | 290 | 10 | 32 | Southern Cal |
| 86 Barber, Mike | TE | 6-3 | 237 | 9 | 31 | Louisiana Tech |
| 96 Barnett, Doug | DE | 6-3 | 250 | 3 | 24 | Azusa Pacific |
| 73 Bolinger, Russ | G | 6-5 | 255 | 8 | 30 | Cal-Long Beach |
| 50 Collins, Jim | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 4 | 26 | Syracuse |
| 21 Cromwell, Nolan | S | 6-1 | 200 | 8 | 29 | Kansas |
| Crutchfield, Dwayne | RB | 6-0 | 235 | 8 | 32 | Iowa St. |
| 70 De Jurnett, Charles | DT | 6-4 | 260 | 8 | 32 | San Jose St. |
| 88 Dennard, Preston | WR | 6-1 | 183 | 7 | 29 | New Mexico |
| 29 Dickerson, Eric | RB | 6-3 | 220 | 2 | 24 | S. Methodist |
| 71 Doss, Reggie | DE | 6-4 | 263 | 7 | 28 | Hampton Inst. |
| 55 Ekern, Carl | LB | 6-3 | 222 | 8 | 30 | San Jose St. |
| 80 Ellard, Henry | WR | 5-11 | 170 | 2 | 23 | Fresno St. |
| 84 Farmer, George | WR | 5-10 | 175 | 3 | 26 | Southern U. |
| 15 Ferragamo, Vince | QB | 6-3 | 212 | 7 | 30 | Nebraska |
| 4 Fuller, Steve | QB | 6-4 | 198 | 6 | 27 | Clemson |
| 82 Grant, Otis | WR | 6-3 | 197 | 2 | 23 | Michigan St. |
| Green, Gary | DB | 5-11 | 191 | 8 | 29 | Baylor |
| 44 Guman, Mike | RB | 6-2 | 218 | 5 | 26 | Penn St. |
| 60 Harrah, Dennis | G | 6-5 | 265 | 10 | 31 | Miami |
| 26 Harris, Eric | CB | 6-3 | 202 | 5 | 29 | Memphis St. |
| 81 Hill, David | TE | 6-2 | 228 | 9 | 30 | Texas A&I |
| 87 Hill, Drew | WR | 5-9 | 170 | 6 | 28 | Georgia Tech |
| 72 Hill, Kent | G | 6-5 | 260 | 6 | 27 | Georgia Tech |
| 47 Irvin, Le Roy | CB | 5-11 | 184 | 5 | 27 | Kansas |
| 59 Jerue, Mark | LB | 6-3 | 229 | 2 | 24 | Washington |
| 77 Jeter, Gary | DE | 6-4 | 260 | 8 | 29 | Southern Cal |
| 20 Johnson, Johnnie | S | 6-1 | 183 | 5 | 28 | Texas |
| 24 Jones, A.J. | RB | 6-1 | 202 | 3 | 25 | Texas |
| 25 Jones, Gordon | WR | 6-0 | 190 | 6 | 27 | Pittsburgh |
| 9 Kemp, Jeff | QB | 6-0 | 201 | 4 | 25 | Dartmouth |
| 76 Kowalski, Gary | T | 6-5 | 275 | 2 | 24 | Boston College |
| 1 Lansford, Mike | K | 6-0 | 183 | 3 | 26 | Washington |
| 51 Lewis, David | LB | 6-4 | 245 | 8 | 30 | Southern Cal |
| 83 McDonald, James | TE | 6-5 | 230 | 2 | 23 | Southern Cal |
| 69 Meisner, Greg | DT | 6-3 | 253 | 4 | 25 | Pittsburgh |
| 6 Misko, John | P | 6-5 | 207 | 3 | 30 | Oregon St. |
| 13 Nelson, Chuck | K | 5-11 | 175 | 2 | 24 | Washington |
| 22 Newsome, Vince | S | 6-1 | 179 | 2 | 23 | Washington |
| 58 Owens, Mel | LB | 6-2 | 224 | 4 | 28 | Michigan |
| 75 Pankey, Irv | T | 6-4 | 267 | 5 | 26 | Penn St. |
| 30 Redden, Barry | RB | 5-10 | 205 | 3 | 24 | Richmond |
| 64 Shearin, Joe | G | 6-4 | 250 | 2 | 24 | Texas |
| 78 Slater, Jackie | T | 6-4 | 271 | 9 | 30 | Jackson St. |
| 56 Smith, Doug | C | 6-3 | 253 | 7 | 28 | Bowling Green |
| 37 Sully, Ivory | S | 6-0 | 200 | 6 | 27 | Delaware |
| 54 Wilcher, Mike | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 2 | 24 | North Carolina |
| 66 Williams, Eric | LB | 6-2 | 235 | 8 | 29 | Southern Cal |
| 28 Williams, Mike | CB | 5-10 | 186 | 10 | 31 | LSU |
| 85 Youngblood, Jack | DE | 6-4 | 242 | 14 | 34 | Florida |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|---------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 5 | Stephens, Hal | DE | 6-4 | 252 | East Carolina |
| 7 | Radachowsky, George | DB | 5-11 | 178 | Boston College |
| 8 | Brady, Ed | LB | 6-2 | 228 | Illinois |
| 9 | Reynolds, George | P | 6-0 | 188 | Penn St. |
| 10 | Vann, Norwood | TE | 6-1 | 234 | East Carolina |
| 10 | Dooley, Joe | C | 6-6 | 270 | Ohio St. |
| 11 | Harper, Michael | RB | 5-11 | 185 | Southern Cal |
| 11 | Love, Dwayne | RB | 6-1 | 205 | Houston |
| 12 | Fisher, Rob | DB | 5-10 | 190 | Oklahoma St. |
| 12 | Bias, Moe | LB | 6-1 | 220 | Illinois |



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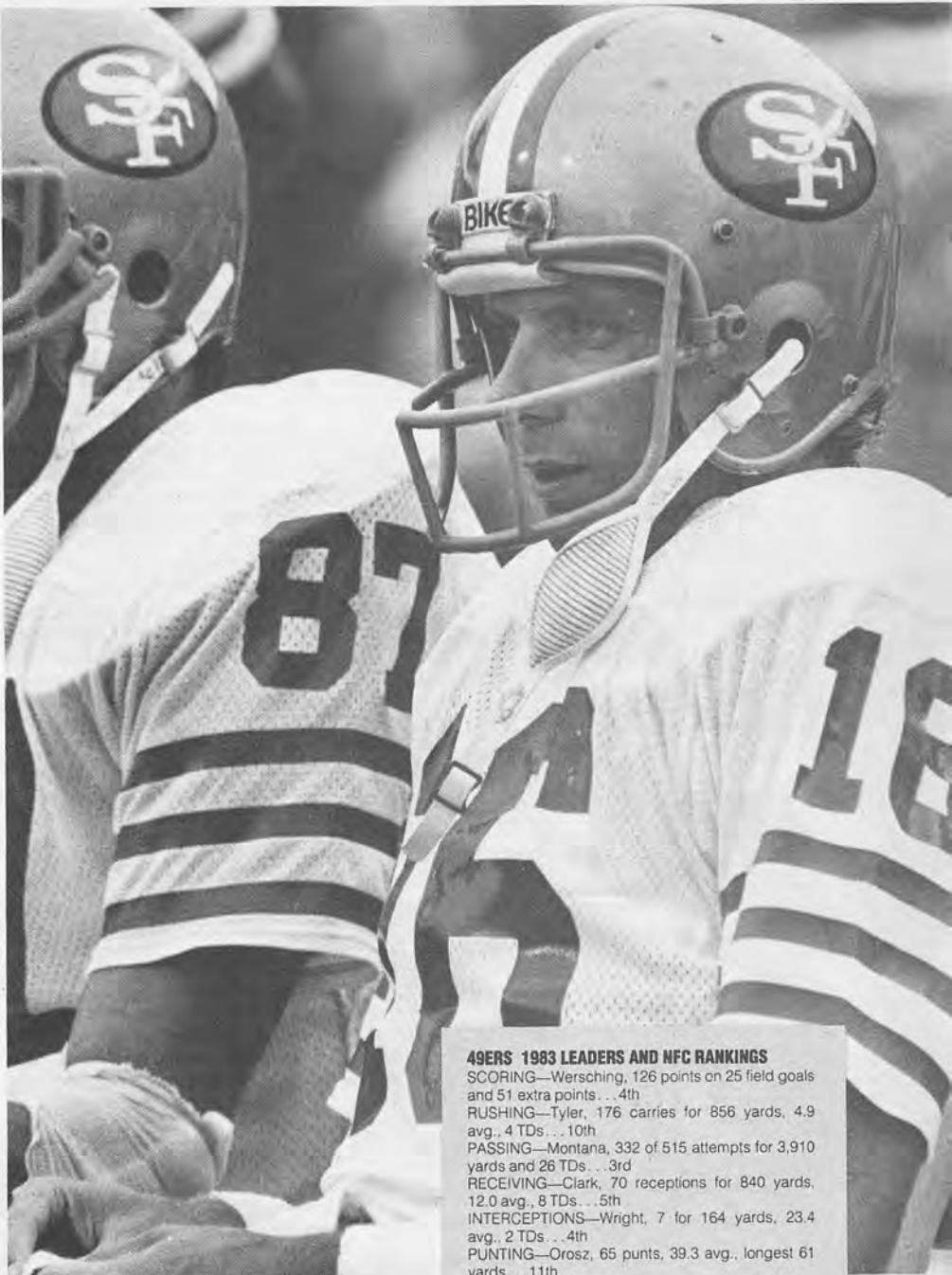
The 49ers came so close to a return trip to the Super Bowl last year. Some argued that two ill-timed interference calls against their aggressive defensive backs interfered with the 49ers' quest to upset the Washington Redskins in the NFC title game.

A more objective view would have to include other considerations. The 49ers were good enough to bounce back from their embarrassing 3-6 record during the strike year, but not good enough to play the consistent football that put Washington ahead of them. The 49ers lost four of five games from October 30 through November 27 and squeezed past the Detroit Lions, 26-24, in the playoff opener after the Lions missed what would have been a game-winning 43-yard field goal.

Solid quarterbacking by Joe Montana is the most apparent difference between the 49ers and the rest of the division. He was second only to Cincinnati's Ken Anderson in completion percentage (64.5). His ability to avoid interceptions (12), as well as his yardage (3,910), were third-best in the league. Montana's resourcefulness and the times he drove defensive linemen and linebackers crazy do not show up in personal statistics. However, dealing out steady frustrations is often reflected on the scoreboard. During the season, Montana quietly took over as the all-time top-ranked passer in the league. All that was required was the longevity. He got it in his fifth season. He also moved into the No. 1 spot in completion percentage and interception avoidance for a career. Behind Montana, the 49ers have Guy Benjamin, Matt Cavanaugh, and Bryan Clark, three men with potential who have little chance of blossoming as long as Montana is in full bloom.



Montana's favorite target, Dwight Clark, hurt his knee in the season finale. A vital element in the 49ers' ball-control passing offense, Clark is ready to go again. His size and better-than-average speed would make him a valuable starter anywhere. His rapport with Montana makes him as essential to San Francisco as that bridge by the bay. When Clark was sidelined, Mike Wilson took his place and played well enough to be considered as a starter this year—on the side opposite Clark. That is where aging Freddie Solomon keeps surprising defenders who think they can keep up with



Quarterback Joe Montana (#16) and defensive back Ronnie Lott are two of the 49ers' standouts.

him. Wilson would give the 49ers more youth and size than Solomon; Renaldo Nehemiah would give more speed. But Solomon somehow gets more accomplished. This could be Nehemiah's make-or-break season. The former world's greatest high hurdler has only a year and a half of major football under his belt. If his considerable talents don't begin to surface more consistently this year, either the 49ers or Nehemiah could get discouraged. Patience and long-term commitment are not in Nehemiah's background. He left college track early, then got bored with freelance track after the U.S. boycotted the 1980 Olympic Games.

At tight end, the 49ers have Russ Francis, who still has the ability to turn it on. Behind

49ERS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

| | | |
|-----------------|---|------|
| SCORING | Wersching, 126 points on 25 field goals and 51 extra points | 4th |
| RUSHING | Tyler, 176 carries for 856 yards, 4.9 avg., 4 TDs | 10th |
| PASSING | Montana, 332 of 515 attempts for 3,910 yards and 26 TDs | 3rd |
| RECEIVING | Clark, 70 receptions for 840 yards, 12.0 avg., 8 TDs | 5th |
| INTERCEPTIONS | Wright, 7 for 164 yards, 23.4 avg., 2 TDs | 4th |
| PUNTING | Orosz, 65 punts, 39.3 avg., longest 61 yards | 11th |
| PUNT RETURNS | McLemore, 31 for 331 yards, 10.7 avg., 1 TD | 2nd |
| KICKOFF RETURNS | McLemore, 30 for 576 yards, 19.2 avg. | 14th |

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|-------------------------|
| August | 4 | LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N) |
| | 11 | At Denver (N) |
| | 18 | At San Diego (N) |
| | 24 | SEATTLE (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|----|------------------------|
| September | 2 | At Detroit |
| | 10 | WASHINGTON (N) |
| | 16 | NEW ORLEANS |
| | 23 | At Philadelphia |
| | 30 | ATLANTA |
| October | 8 | At New York Giants (N) |
| | 14 | PITTSBURGH |
| | 21 | At Houston |
| | 28 | At Los Angeles Rams |
| November | 4 | CINCINNATI |
| | 11 | At Cleveland |
| | 18 | TAMPA BAY |
| | 25 | At New Orleans |
| December | 2 | At Atlanta |
| | 8 | MINNESOTA |
| | 14 | LOS ANGELES RAMS (N) |

him, they could use better blocking. Maybe they can get it from second-round draft choice John Frank of Ohio State. Earl Cooper, a converted fullback, also appears in a make-or-break situation. He has proven to be an excellent receiver.

Improving the running game was a priority last year, and Walsh saw his team catapult from dead last all the way to eighth after the addition of rookie Roger Craig and Wendell Tyler. Craig ended up better than even the optimistic Walsh had guessed. Tyler brought his well-deserved reputation for fumbling with him from Los Angeles, but after Walsh benched him a few times toward the ends of games, Tyler settled down to finish the season in the lineup. Neither runner provides a big-back attack, but both can catch the ball, a more important skill in Walsh's scheme. Jeff Moore and Bill Ring are reliable reserves, but they're not big either.

49ERS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|-----|---------------------|-------|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| 68 | Ayers, John | G | 6-5 | 265 | 8 | 31 | W. Texas St. |
| 7 | Benjamin, Guy | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 7 | 29 | Stanford |
| 44 | Blackmore, Richard | CB | 5-10 | 174 | 6 | 28 | Miss St. |
| 76 | Board, Dwaine | DE | 6-5 | 248 | 5 | 28 | N.C. A&T |
| 57 | Bunz, Dan | LB | 6-4 | 225 | 6 | 29 | Cal-Le Beach |
| 6 | Cavanaugh, Matt | QB | 6-2 | 212 | 7 | 24 | Pittsburgh |
| 15 | Clark, Bryan | QB | 6-2 | 196 | 2 | 24 | Michigan St. |
| 87 | Clark, Dwight | WR | 6-4 | 210 | 6 | 27 | Clemson |
| 47 | Cotter, Tim | CB | 6-0 | 174 | 9 | 30 | East Texas St. |
| 89 | Cooper, Earl | TE-RB | 6-2 | 226 | 5 | 27 | Rice |
| 33 | Craig, Roger | RB | 6-0 | 223 | 2 | 24 | Nebraska |
| 51 | Cross, Randy | G | 6-3 | 265 | 9 | 30 | UCLA |
| 74 | Dean, Fred | DE | 6-2 | 236 | 10 | 32 | Louisiana Tech |
| 62 | Downing, Walt | OL | 6-3 | 270 | 7 | 28 | Michigan |
| 84 | Durham, Darius | WR | 6-2 | 193 | 2 | 23 | San Diego St. |
| 50 | Ellison, Riki | LB | 6-2 | 220 | 2 | 24 | Southern Cal. |
| 71 | Fahnhorst, Keith | T | 6-6 | 273 | 11 | 32 | Minnesota |
| 54 | Ferrari, Ron | LB | 6-0 | 212 | 3 | 25 | Illinois |
| 81 | Francis, Russ | TE | 6-6 | 242 | 9 | 31 | Oregon |
| 24 | Gervais, Rick | S | 5-11 | 190 | 4 | 25 | Stanford |
| 75 | Harty, John | DT | 6-4 | 263 | 4 | 26 | Iowa |
| 22 | Hicks, Dwight | S | 6-1 | 192 | 6 | 28 | Michigan |
| 28 | Holmoe, Tom | DB | 6-2 | 180 | 2 | 24 | Brigham Young |
| 52 | Kelcher, Louie | NT | 6-5 | 310 | 10 | 31 | SMU |
| 66 | Kennedy, Allan | T | 6-7 | 275 | 3 | 28 | Washington St. |
| 55 | LeMaster, Frank | LB | 6-2 | 238 | 10 | 32 | Kentucky |
| 42 | Lott, Ronnie | DB | 6-0 | 199 | 4 | 25 | Southern Cal |
| 53 | McColl, Milt | LB | 6-6 | 230 | 4 | 25 | Stanford |
| 43 | McLemore, Dana | DB | 5-10 | 183 | 3 | 24 | Hawaii |
| 32 | Monroe, Carl | RB | 5-8 | 166 | 2 | 24 | Utah |
| 16 | Montana, Joe | QB | 6-2 | 195 | 6 | 28 | Notre Dame |
| 60 | Montgomery, B. | LB | 6-2 | 236 | 2 | 23 | UCLA |
| 25 | Moore, Jeff | RB | 6-0 | 196 | 5 | 28 | Jackson St. |
| 63 | Moter, Gary | LB | 6-1 | 210 | 2 | 23 | SMU |
| 83 | Nehemiah, Renaldo | WR | 6-1 | 183 | 3 | 25 | Maryland |
| 3 | Orosz, Tom | P | 6-1 | 204 | 4 | 25 | Ohio St. |
| 77 | Paris, Bubba | T | 6-6 | 295 | 2 | 24 | Michigan |
| 65 | Pillers, Lawrence | DL | 6-4 | 250 | 9 | 32 | Alcorn St. |
| 66 | Quillan, Fred | C | 6-5 | 266 | 7 | 28 | Oregon |
| 64 | Reynolds, Jack | LB | 6-1 | 232 | 15 | 37 | Tennessee |
| 30 | Ring, Bill | RB | 5-10 | 205 | 4 | 28 | Brigham Young |
| 61 | Sapoli, Jesse | G | 6-4 | 260 | 2 | 23 | Hawaii |
| 88 | Solomon, Freddie | WR | 5-11 | 188 | 10 | 31 | Tampa |
| 72 | Stover, Jeff | NT | 6-5 | 275 | 3 | 26 | Oregon |
| 79 | Stuckey, Jim | DE | 6-4 | 253 | 5 | 26 | Clemson |
| 70 | Tuiasosopo, Manu | DT | 6-3 | 250 | 6 | 27 | UCLA |
| 58 | Turner, Keena | LB | 6-2 | 219 | 5 | 26 | Purdue |
| 26 | Wendell, Tyler | RB | 5-10 | 200 | 7 | 29 | UCLA |
| 14 | Wersching, Ray | K | 5-11 | 210 | 12 | 34 | California |
| 27 | Williamson, Carlton | S | 6-0 | 204 | 4 | 26 | Pittsburgh |
| 85 | Wilson, Mike | WR | 6-3 | 210 | 4 | 26 | Washington St. |
| 20 | Wood, Mike | P-K | 5-11 | 205 | 5 | 30 | S.E. Missouri |
| 21 | Wright, Eric | CB | 6-1 | 180 | 4 | 25 | Missouri |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-----------------|-----|------|-----|---------------|
| 1 | Shell, Todd | LB | 6-4 | 225 | Brigham Young |
| 2 | Frank, John | TE | 6-3 | 225 | Ohio St. |
| 3 | McIntyre, Guy | OG | 6-3 | 271 | Georgia |
| 4 | Carter, Michael | DT | 6-2 | 281 | SMU |
| 5 | Fuller, Jeff | LB | 6-2 | 216 | Texas A&M |
| 6 | Miller, Lee | DB | 6-1 | 186 | Cal-Fullerton |
| 7 | Harmon, Derrick | RB | 5-10 | 202 | Cornell |
| 10 | Moritz, Dave | WR | 6-0 | 181 | Iowa |
| 11 | Pendleton, Kirk | WR | 6-3 | 191 | Brigham Young |

The 49ers' offensive line proved that their 1982 Super Bowl season was no fluke. It should remain a strength in 1984. At right tackle, nobody in the league played any better than Keith Fahnhorst, even though he didn't get a Pro Bowl bid. At age 32, he is coming off his best season. At left tackle, Bubba Paris shut up the doubters with a remarkable season for a first-year starter. After spending his much-heralded rookie year on injured reserve, Paris played well enough to become anonymous. John Ayers and Randy Cross provide solid, veteran play at the guard spots. Fred Quillan is an experienced center. Third-round draft choice Guy McIntyre of Georgia could provide depth with Walt Downing and Jesse Sapoli. Allan Kennedy is the backup tackle.

On defense, nose tackle Pete Kugler and linebackers Willie Harper and Bobby Leopold jumped to the USFL, sending the 49ers scurrying to the drawing board. They picked up veteran tackles Manu Tuiasosopo from the Seattle Seahawks and Louie Kelcher from the San Diego Chargers in an effort to fill the nose-tackle spot, where Jeff Stover is the only holdover. In the draft, they picked up SMU's Michael Carter, like Stover a shot-putter. Flanking the nose tackle are starting ends Lawrence Pillers and Dwaine Board, who are more than adequately aided by Fred Dean in pass-rush situations. Jim Stuckey is a backup.

Inside linebacker Frank LeMaster joined the club from Philadelphia as insurance for the ageless Jack Reynolds. That still leaves Harper's left outside spot up for grabs, with former inside starter Dan Bunz first in line and No. 1 draft choice Todd Shell of Brigham Young close behind. Milt McColl and Blanchard Montgomery also are possibilities. Riki Ellison had a sterling rookie season beside Reynolds inside. Keena Turner is the designated pass-rushing, pass-chasing weakside linebacker, the best athlete on the team.

San Francisco features running back Roger Craig (#33) and an aggressive, hard-hitting defense.

The defense is characterized by the aggressiveness of the 49ers' backfield, a turnaround from days when defenses were dominated by front fours. Cornerbacks Ronnie Lott and Eric Wright and safeties Carlton Williamson and Dwight Hicks will hit, cover, gamble, intercept, and win. They will lose some battles, too, but not without making opposing receivers and runners pay the price. Tim Collier, Dana McLemore, Richard Blackmore, and Tom Holmoe are the backups. When Williamson was injured last year, Lott ended up playing some at safety, which some experts insist is his natural position. Even while performing most of the time at cornerback and sitting out a game and a half with an injury, Lott led the club in tackles by far. Second was Wright, making the 49ers perhaps the only defense in history to be led in tackles by the cornerbacks. Their play helped lift the team from 21st to tenth in overall defense. They remain a key to 1984 hopes.

Ray Wersching enters his twelfth season as one of football's most reliable kickers. He tied the Giants' Ali Haji-Sheikh for the NFC accuracy title at .833 last year. Tom Orosz was not as consistent as a punter, but the good news there was the 49ers had to punt fewer times than anyone else in the NFC.



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ATLANTA FALCONS

At times, seven rookies lined up on defense for the Falcons last season. If you think that was a youth movement, you didn't see this year's draft. Their first eight picks play defense. No question where offensive genius Dan Henning wants to improve his club. The Falcons were 25th in overall defense, 22nd against the rush, 20th against the pass, 23rd in points. They gave up a club record 5,826 yards. Much of it was "bend-but-don't-break" yardage, but the Falcons found they didn't have to give up many points to lose. When they were 2-5, their five losses were by a total of 19 points.

Not many clubs can line up with the leading passer in football, Steve Bartkowski; two Pro Bowl blockers, Mike Kenn and R.C. Thielemann; and a runner widely considered the best all-around back in football, William Andrews. When one team has so many luminaries, it becomes especially difficult to sell 7-9 records. Hence the restructuring of the defense. The offense could have been better, too. It finished eleventh in passing, eleventh in running, eighth in total yards, tenth in scoring. Not bad, but not unstoppable.

Statistically, Bartkowski could hardly improve on his performance in Henning's first year. His passer rating of 97.6 was compiled by throwing 432 passes for 3,167 yards and 22 touchdowns. He completed 63.4 percent of his tosses and had only five interceptions, the second-lowest single-season interception percentage ever. Bartkowski, 31, had arthroscopic knee surgery following the season but is expected to be at 100 percent by training camp. When he missed two games with the injury, back Mike Moroski sparked a 47-41 victory over Green Bay and played well in a 37-21 loss to Washington. Henning drafted Duke's Ben Bennett, who chose instead to sign with the USFL.

Not so satisfying in the Henning regime was the deployment of Andrews and former No. 1 draft choice Gerald Riggs in a one-back formation. With Bo Robinson playing the "H-Back," or motion slot, Andrews gained a career-high 1,567 yards and caught 59 passes for 609 yards. He became only the third player to eclipse 2,000 yards twice in his career. But Andrews played only three quarters of most games, as Riggs usually spelled him for at least a period. Riggs gained 437 yards on 100 carries and led the club in rushing TDs, with eight. Critics wondered why either runner spent time on the bench. Henning has slightly different plans this year. He said he will look more at a two-back set using

FALCONS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Lukhurst, 94 points on 17 field goals and 43 extra points...10th
RUSHING—Andrews, 331 carries for 1,567 yards, 4.7 avg., 7 TDs...2nd
PASSING—Bartkowski, 274 of 432 attempts for 3,167 yards and 22 TDs...1st
RECEIVING—B. Johnson, 64 receptions for 709 yards, 11.1 avg., 4 TDs...7th
INTERCEPTIONS—Pridemore, 4 for 56 yards, 14.0 avg., 25th
PUNTING—Giacomarco, 70 punts, 40.3 avg., longest 57 yards...8th
PUNT RETURNS—B. Johnson, 46 for 489 yards, 10.6 avg., 1 TD...3rd
KICKOFF RETURNS—R. Williams, 23 for 461 yards, 20.0 avg., 11th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 4 At Minnesota (N)
11 At New Orleans (N)
18 TAMPA BAY (N)
24 DENVER (N)

1984 SCHEDULE

| | 1983 SCORES |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| September 2 | At New Orleans 10-27 |
| 9 | Detroit 30-14 |
| 16 | At Minnesota — |
| 23 | Houston — |
| 30 | At San Francisco 20-24 |
| October 7 | At Los Angeles Rams 21-27 |
| 14 | NEW YORK GIANTS (ovt) 13-16 |
| 22 | LOS ANGELES RAMS (N) 13-36 |
| 28 | At Pittsburgh — |
| November 5 | At Washington (N) 21-37 |
| 11 | NEW ORLEANS 17-19 |
| 18 | CLEVELAND — |
| 25 | At Cincinnati — |
| December 2 | SAN FRANCISCO 28-24 |
| 9 | At Tampa Bay — |
| 16 | PHILADELPHIA — |

Steve Bartkowski, the NFL's top-rated quarterback in 1983; Atlanta will go to a 4-3 defense in '84.



both Andrews and Riggs, with one shifting or going into motion. Lynn Cain, another accomplished runner, also will compete.

Billy "White Shoes" Johnson rode in on a white horse in '83 in a remarkable comeback. He led the club in receptions, with 64, proving it was premature to call him over-the-hill. His chance came when injuries depleted the receiving corps. Alfred Jackson spent 12 weeks on injured reserve, but his fast start dictates that he will be a regular again this year opposite Stacey Bailey. It was Bailey who came in for Jackson and led the club in receiving yardage and TD catches. In his first three starts he gained more than 100 yards. The depth at the position includes Floyd Hodge, who started six games and caught 25 passes for 280 yards and four TDs. Willie Cur-

FALCONS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|-----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| 31 Andrews, William | RB | 6-0 | 213 | 6 | 29 | Auburn |
| 82 Bailey, Stacey | WR | 6-1 | 163 | 3 | 24 | San Jose St. |
| 10 Bartkowski, Steve | QB | 6-4 | 218 | 10 | 32 | California |
| 69 Benish, Dan | DT | 6-5 | 265 | 2 | 23 | Clemson |
| 26 Britt, James | DB | 6-0 | 185 | 2 | 24 | LSU |
| 66 Bryant, Warren | T | 6-7 | 270 | 8 | 29 | Kentucky |
| 23 Butler, Bobby | CB | 5-11 | 175 | 4 | 25 | Florida St. |
| 21 Cain, Lynn | RB | 6-1 | 205 | 6 | 29 | Southern Cal |
| 88 Cox, Arthur | TE | 6-3 | 245 | 2 | 23 | Texas Southern |
| 89 Curran, William | WR | 5-10 | 175 | 3 | 25 | UCLA |
| 50 Curry, Buddy | LB | 6-4 | 228 | 5 | 26 | North Carolina |
| 51 Dixon, Rich | LB | 6-2 | 235 | 2 | 25 | California |
| 71 Dufour, Dan | G | 6-5 | 280 | 2 | 24 | UCLA |
| 58 Frye, David | LB | 6-2 | 205 | 2 | 23 | Purdue |
| 34 Gaison, Blane | S | 6-1 | 188 | 4 | 26 | Hawaii |
| 1 Giacomarco, Ralph | P | 6-0 | 190 | 2 | 23 | Penn State |
| 36 Glazebrook, Bob | S | 6-1 | 200 | 7 | 28 | Fresno St. |
| 52 Harper, John | LB | 6-3 | 238 | 2 | 24 | Southern Illinois |
| 30 Haworth, Steve | CB | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | 23 | Oklahoma |
| 83 Hodge, Floyd | WR | 6-0 | 190 | 3 | 25 | Utah |
| 85 Jackson, Alfred | WR | 6-0 | 185 | 7 | 29 | Texas |
| 84 Jenkins, Alfred | WR | 5-9 | 155 | 10 | 32 | Morris Brown |
| 81 Johnson, Billy | WR | 5-9 | 170 | 10 | 32 | Widener |
| 37 Johnson, Kenny | CB | 5-11 | 172 | 5 | 26 | Mississippi St. |
| 20 Jones, Earl | CB | 6-1 | 175 | 5 | 27 | Norfolk St. |
| 78 Kenn, Mike | T | 6-7 | 255 | 7 | 28 | Michigan |
| 54 Kuykendall, Fulton | LB | 6-4 | 228 | 10 | 31 | UCLA |
| 70 Lee, Ronnie | OL | 6-3 | 243 | 6 | 28 | Baylor |
| 55 Levenick, Dave | LB | 6-3 | 220 | 2 | 25 | Wisconsin |
| 18 Lukhurst, Mick | K | 6-0 | 180 | 4 | 26 | California |
| 49 Mathews, Allama | TE | 6-3 | 230 | 2 | 23 | Vanderbilt |
| 87 Mikeski, Russ | TE | 6-3 | 222 | 6 | 29 | Texas A&M |
| 62 Miller, Brett | T | 6-7 | 275 | 2 | 26 | Iowa |
| 80 Miller, Junior | TE | 6-4 | 240 | 5 | 27 | Nebraska |
| 15 Moroski, Mike | QB | 6-4 | 200 | 5 | 27 | Cal-Davis |
| 53 Musser, Neal | LB | 6-3 | 223 | 4 | 27 | No. C. St. |
| 74 Pitts, Mike | DE | 6-5 | 260 | 2 | 24 | Alabama |
| 27 Pridemore, Tom | S | 5-11 | 186 | 7 | 28 | West Virginia |
| 72 Provence, Andrew | DT | 6-3 | 265 | 2 | 23 | South Carolina |
| 59 Rade, John | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 2 | 24 | Boise St. |
| 56 Richardson, Al | LB | 6-3 | 220 | 5 | 27 | Georgia Tech |
| 42 Riggs, Gerald | RB | 6-1 | 230 | 3 | 24 | Arizona St. |
| 33 Robinson, Bo | RB | 6-2 | 235 | 6 | 28 | West Texas St. |
| 67 Sanders, Eric | T | 6-7 | 270 | 4 | 26 | Nevada-Reno |
| 61 Sculley, John | G | 6-6 | 255 | 4 | 26 | Notre Dame |
| 65 Smith, Don | DT | 6-5 | 260 | 6 | 27 | Miami |
| 68 Thielemann, R.C. | G | 6-4 | 252 | 8 | 29 | Arkansas |
| 43 Tulson, Tom | DB | 6-1 | 180 | 2 | 26 | So. Ca. St. |
| 57 Van Note, Jeff | C | 6-2 | 250 | 16 | 38 | Kentucky |
| 22 Williams, Richard | RB | 6-0 | 205 | 2 | 24 | Memphis St. |
| 79 Yeates, Jeff | DE | 6-3 | 252 | 13 | 33 | Boston College |
| 86 Young, Benjamin | TE | 6-4 | 225 | 2 | 24 | Texas-Arlington |
| 63 Zele, Mike | DT | 6-4 | 250 | 6 | 28 | Kent St. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|-----------------|
| 1 | Bryan, Rick | DT | 6-4 | 263 | Oklahoma |
| 2 | Case, Scott | DB | 6-0 | 185 | Oklahoma |
| 2 | Benson, Thomas | LB | 6-1 | 235 | Oklahoma |
| 3 | McSwain, Rod | DB | 6-1 | 198 | Clemson |
| 4 | Malarcon, Rydell | LB | 6-2 | 219 | LSU |
| 5 | Benson, Cliff | TE | 6-3 | 237 | Purdue |
| 6 | Bennett, Ben | QB | 6-1 | 196 | Duke |
| 6 | Ralph, Dan | DT | 6-4 | 268 | Oregon |
| 7 | Dodge, Kirk | LB | 6-1 | 231 | UNLV |
| 8 | Jackson, Jeff | LB | 6-0 | 225 | Auburn |
| 9 | Howe, Glen | OT | 6-6 | 265 | So. Mississippi |
| 10 | Franklin, Derrick | DB | 5-10 | 179 | Fresno St. |
| 11 | Norman, Tommy | WR | 5-11 | 184 | Jackson St. |
| 12 | Holmes, Don | WR | 5-10 | 174 | Mesa |

ran is a valuable special-teams' player and reserve receiver.

Henning calls his tight-end spot the most wide-open on the offense. Junior Miller is a candidate, but he has plenty of competition. Two free agents, Ben Young and Arthur Cox, both proved they could play, with Cox overtaking Young as the starter in the second half of the season. Henning does not count out Russ Mikeska, a veteran who missed last season with an arch injury. Another candidate is fifth-round choice Cliff Benson of Purdue.

The strength of the Falcon offense is in its line, anchored by Kenn and Thielemann on the left side. Both holdouts last year, they proved they were worth it, although Thielemann ended up at a new position. When he was gone, young John Scully took his spot at right guard, forcing Thielemann to play left guard when he returned. Scully was being groomed to replace Jeff Van Note at center, but Van Note is ready to return for his sixteenth season. He has started 201 games since 1969. Don Dufour is the club's long snapper, and he may push Van Note for playing time. Kenn is going for his fifth consecutive trip to the Pro Bowl, proof that he is the prototype left tackle. At right tackle, Warren Bryant will face yet another challenge. He trimmed down from 319 pounds to 270 to salvage his job last year, and even though he played exceptionally well against the Rams' Jack Youngblood and the Jets' Mark Gastineau, he is not assured of retaining his spot. Eric Sanders has seen more playing time,

while second-year prospect Brett Miller could also push at the position.

Any changes on the offensive line will be insignificant compared with the upheaval planned on defense. Henning and defensive coordinator John Marshall have scrapped the 3-4 front and will go almost exclusively with the 4-3. To underscore their intentions, they made Oklahoma tackle Rick Bryan their No. 1 draft choice. The restructuring started last season, with rookies Mike Pitts and Andrew Provence playing key roles. Veteran Don Smith, the team's best pass rusher, was moved from the nose to end. Tackle Mike Zele missed 12 games because of injury and was replaced by Provence, who will move outside. Veteran Jeff Merrow retired, and another veteran, Jeff Yeates, may be pushed that way.

At linebacker, the Falcons drafted Oklahoma's Thomas Benson and LSU's Rydell Malancon to compete with starters Buddy Curry, Fulton Kuykendall, and Al Richardson. Curry played right outside linebacker for the first time last season, Kuykendall missed some games with injuries, and Curry might end up permanently in the middle. Richardson missed 11 games with a shoulder injury, but he still appears to be the best prospect on the left side, although second-year man John Rade played well in Richardson's place. David Frye and John Harper could also fit into the picture.

Two more draft choices, Scott Case and Rodney McSwain, will join the fun in the secondary, where more retooling is expected.



Atlanta receiver Billy Johnson.

Kenny Johnson and Bobby Butler played fairly well at the corners last year, but Henning wants to experiment with Johnson at safety and look at second-year man James Britt at the corner. Britt played safety last year with an injured shoulder that limited his play. McSwain, a swift prospect, might be a year or two away, but he has the potential to start at corner. Safety Tom Pridemore led the secondary in tackles for the sixth straight year and tied Butler for the team lead in interceptions, with four. Bob Glazebrook, Blane Gaison, Earl Jones, Tom Tutson, and Steve Haworth will be fighting for reserve roles.

The amazing Johnson set a club record for punt returns and needs only 206 yards to surpass Rick Upchurch as the top punt returner of all time. Place-kicker Mick Luckhurst made 17 of 22 field goals, including 9 of 12 from 40 yards or beyond.

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DETROIT LIONS

The law of averages caught up with the Detroit Lions last year. So did the law of a court, which ruled Billy Sims could stay in town. Monte Clark, unfairly overlooked in the coach of the year balloting, overcame a 1-4 start and decades of mediocrity to guide the Lions to the NFC Central Division title. They won seven of eight games within their division, an accomplishment that stamps them as the 1984 favorites until somebody else proves otherwise.

With the judge's decision to keep running back Sims from fleeing to the Houston Gamblers of the United States Football League, the judgment in Detroit is for a bright future. Clark was criticized for getting rid of veterans such as David Hill and Al "Bubba" Baker, but the end result cannot be disputed. "He has Monte Clark people there now and that's why they're winning," said Chicago coach Mike Ditka. Clark's top seven draft choices in 1983 wound up starting at least a game before their rookie season was over. This is a young team, averaging just 3.8 years of experience. It is enthusiastic and it has endured hardship while learning to win.

Quarterbacking remains the one major question mark. Clark tried to end the dilemma by starting Eric Hippel in all 16 regular-season games, relegating former starter Gary Danielson to strictly a backup role. But Danielson's performance in eight games and his showing as a starter in the NFC playoff loss to San Francisco reopened an old question: who should play? Clark was disappointed that the New York Jets did not spend more time shopping Richard Todd around the league before trading him to New Orleans. Hippel ranked twelfth among NFC quarterbacks, throwing 12 touchdown passes and 18 interceptions, an

unacceptable ratio. Danielson was more efficient when he played. Even though he threw five interceptions against the 49ers, he had the Lions within a 43-yard field goal of winning. The Lions also have Mike Machurek and sixth-round draft choice John Witkowski of Columbia.

Sims's worth to the Lions is evident in a few telling statistics. When the team was getting off to its 1-4 start, Sims was on the bench with a broken hand for two and a half games. Of his 1,040 yards rushing, 850 came in the final eight games. The Lions won six of them. He had four straight 100-yard games from November 13 through December 5. Sims's presence leaves no doubt about the quality of the running game. He emerged as a leader and his attitude became contagious. In just his fifth season, Sims needs 595 yards to catch teammate Dexter Bussey as the Lions' all-time leading rusher.

Second-year fullback James Jones seemed to run tentatively early in his rookie season. At 6-2, 230, he should be the proto-

type counterpart to Sims. During the Lions' stretch drive, Jones asserted himself more and led the team in receptions, with 46. Bussey, entering his eleventh season, joins Rick Kane, Horace King, and Vince Thompson to form the most experienced group of backup runners in the league. To add some youth, the Lions took Oklahoma State's productive Ernest Anderson—but he later signed with the USFL—and Maryland fullback Dave D'Addio.

Detroit's receivers, led by underrated Leonard Thompson, got an unexpected boost last year from a free-agent rookie, Jeff Chadwick. Although he started only four games, Chadwick caught 40 passes for 617 yards and four touchdowns, outperforming former first-round choice Mark Nichols. If Nichols ever consis-

LIONS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | NFL age | college |
|------------------------|------|------|-----|-----|---------|------------------|
| 54 Barnes, Roosevelt | LB | 6-2 | 222 | 3 | 26 | Purdue |
| 11 Black, Mike | P | 6-1 | 197 | 2 | 23 | Arizona St. |
| 24 Bussey, Dexter | RB | 5-11 | 210 | 11 | 32 | Texas-Arlington |
| 89 Chadwick, Jeff | WR | 6-3 | 185 | 2 | 24 | Grand Valley St. |
| 53 Cobb, Gary | LB | 6-2 | 227 | 6 | 27 | Southern Cal |
| 66 Cofer, Mike | DE | 6-5 | 245 | 2 | 24 | Tennessee |
| 50 Curley, August | LB | 6-3 | 222 | 2 | 24 | Southern Cal |
| 16 Danielson, Gary | QB | 6-2 | 198 | 8 | 33 | Purdue |
| 73 Dawson, Mike | DT | 6-3 | 258 | 9 | 31 | Arizona |
| 72 Dieterich, Chris | T | 6-3 | 255 | 5 | 26 | N. C. St. |
| 58 Doig, Steve | LB | 6-2 | 242 | 3 | 24 | New Hampshire |
| 70 Dorney, Keith | T | 6-5 | 265 | 6 | 27 | Penn St. |
| 61 Elias, Homer | G | 6-2 | 255 | 7 | 29 | Tennessee St. |
| 78 English, Doug | DT | 6-5 | 250 | 9 | 31 | Texas |
| 57 Fantetti, Ken | LB | 6-2 | 232 | 6 | 27 | Wyoming |
| 65 Fowler, Amos | C | 6-3 | 253 | 7 | 28 | Southern Miss. |
| 79 Gay, William | DE | 6-5 | 255 | 7 | 29 | Southern Cal |
| 33 Graham, William | DB | 5-11 | 191 | 3 | 25 | Texas |
| 67 Greco, Don | G | 6-3 | 255 | 3 | 25 | Western Illinois |
| 62 Green, Curtis | DE | 6-3 | 252 | 4 | 27 | Alabama St. |
| 35 Hall, Alvin | DB | 5-10 | 187 | 4 | 26 | Miami (OH) |
| 23 Harvey, Maurice | S | 5-9 | 187 | 6 | 28 | Ball St. |
| 17 Hippel, Eric | QB | 6-2 | 196 | 5 | 27 | Utah St. |
| 31 Jenkins, Ken | RB-S | 5-8 | 184 | 2 | 25 | Bucknell |
| 21 Johnson, Demetrious | CB | 5-11 | 190 | 2 | 23 | Missouri |
| 30 Jones, James | FB | 6-2 | 230 | 2 | 23 | Florida |
| 32 Kane, Rick | RB | 6-0 | 200 | 8 | 30 | San Jose St. |
| 25 King, Horace | RB | 5-11 | 205 | 10 | 31 | Georgia |
| 43 Laflin, Al | CB | 5-11 | 172 | 5 | 27 | Clemson |
| 82 Lee, Edward | WR | 6-0 | 185 | 2 | 25 | S.C. St. |
| 64 Lee, Larry | G | 6-2 | 260 | 4 | 25 | UCLA |
| 14 Machurek, Mike | QB | 6-1 | 205 | 3 | 24 | Idaho St. |
| 83 Martin, Robbie | WR-S | 5-8 | 177 | 4 | 26 | Cal Poly-Obispo |
| 81 McCall, Reese | TE | 6-6 | 232 | 7 | 28 | Auburn |
| 29 McNorton, Bruce | DB | 5-11 | 173 | 3 | 25 | Georgetown (KY) |
| 63 Moss, Martin | DT | 6-4 | 252 | 3 | 26 | UCLA |
| 52 Mott, Steve | C | 6-3 | 260 | 2 | 23 | Alabama |
| 3 Murray, Ed | K | 5-10 | 165 | 5 | 28 | Tulane |
| 86 Nichols, Mark | WR | 6-2 | 208 | 4 | 25 | San Jose St. |
| 80 Norris, Ulysses | TE | 6-4 | 232 | 6 | 27 | Georgia |
| 84 Rubick, Rob | TE | 6-2 | 228 | 3 | 24 | Grand Valley St. |
| 22 Sims, Billy | RB | 6-0 | 212 | 5 | 29 | Oklahoma |
| 71 Strenger, Rich | T | 6-7 | 269 | 2 | 24 | Michigan |
| 39 Thompson, Leonard | WR | 5-11 | 192 | 10 | 32 | Oklahoma St. |
| 38 Thompson, Vince | FB | 6-0 | 225 | 3 | 27 | Villanova |
| 55 Turnure, Tom | C | 6-4 | 253 | 5 | 27 | Washington |
| 34 Wagoner, Danny | DB | 5-10 | 180 | 3 | 25 | Kansas |
| 27 Watkins, Bobby | DB | 5-10 | 186 | 3 | 24 | S.W. Texas St. |
| 59 Williams, Jimmy | LB | 6-2 | 222 | 3 | 25 | Nebraska |

DRAFTEES

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 Lewis, David | TE | 6-4 | 230 | California |
| 2 Mandley, Pete | WR | 5-10 | 183 | N. Arizona |
| 3 Williams, Eric | DT | 6-4 | 265 | Washington St. |
| 3 Anderson, Ernest | RB | 5-11 | 190 | Oklahoma St. |
| 3 Baack, Steve | DE | 6-4 | 252 | Oregon |
| 4 D'Addio, Dave | RB | 6-2 | 235 | Maryland |
| 5 Witkowski, John | QB | 6-2 | 200 | Columbia |
| 7 Carter, Jimmie | LB | 6-1 | 220 | New Mexico |
| 7 Atkins, Renwick | OT | 6-3 | 269 | Kansas |
| 8 Jones, David | C | 6-3 | 266 | Texas |
| 9 Hollins, Rich | WR | 6-0 | 195 | West Virginia |
| 10 Frizzell, William | DB | 6-2 | 195 | N.C. Central |
| 10 Thaxton, James | DB | 5-10 | 177 | La. Tech |
| 11 Saxon, Mike | P | 6-2 | 183 | San Diego St. |
| 12 Streno, Glenn | C | 6-2 | 265 | Tennessee |



tently lives up to his considerable potential, the Lions will have no worries at this position. Another rookie, Northern Arizona's Pete Mandley, is expected to become a definite factor. Although small at 5-9, 185, Mandley turned the eyes of scouts during postseason workouts and was the Lions' second-round choice. The first-round choice was a tight end, Cal's David Lewis, who has the ability to do it all if he can iron out his inconsistencies. That was a problem for last year's starter, Ulysses Norris. He replaced David Hill but caught only 26 passes, seven for touchdowns. The backups are Rob Rubick and Reese McCall.

Clark's expertise on the offensive line showed up despite constant shuffling in 1983. He moved rookie Steve Mott into the center spot formerly held by veteran Amos Fowler. When Pro Bowl candidate Keith Dorney missed three weeks with a back injury, the Lions won with rookie Rich Strenger at right tackle. Third-year guard Don Greco established himself on the right side but missed four games with a sprained foot. Left guard Homer Elias missed two games with a knee injury. Larry Lee started the six games Greco and Elias missed.

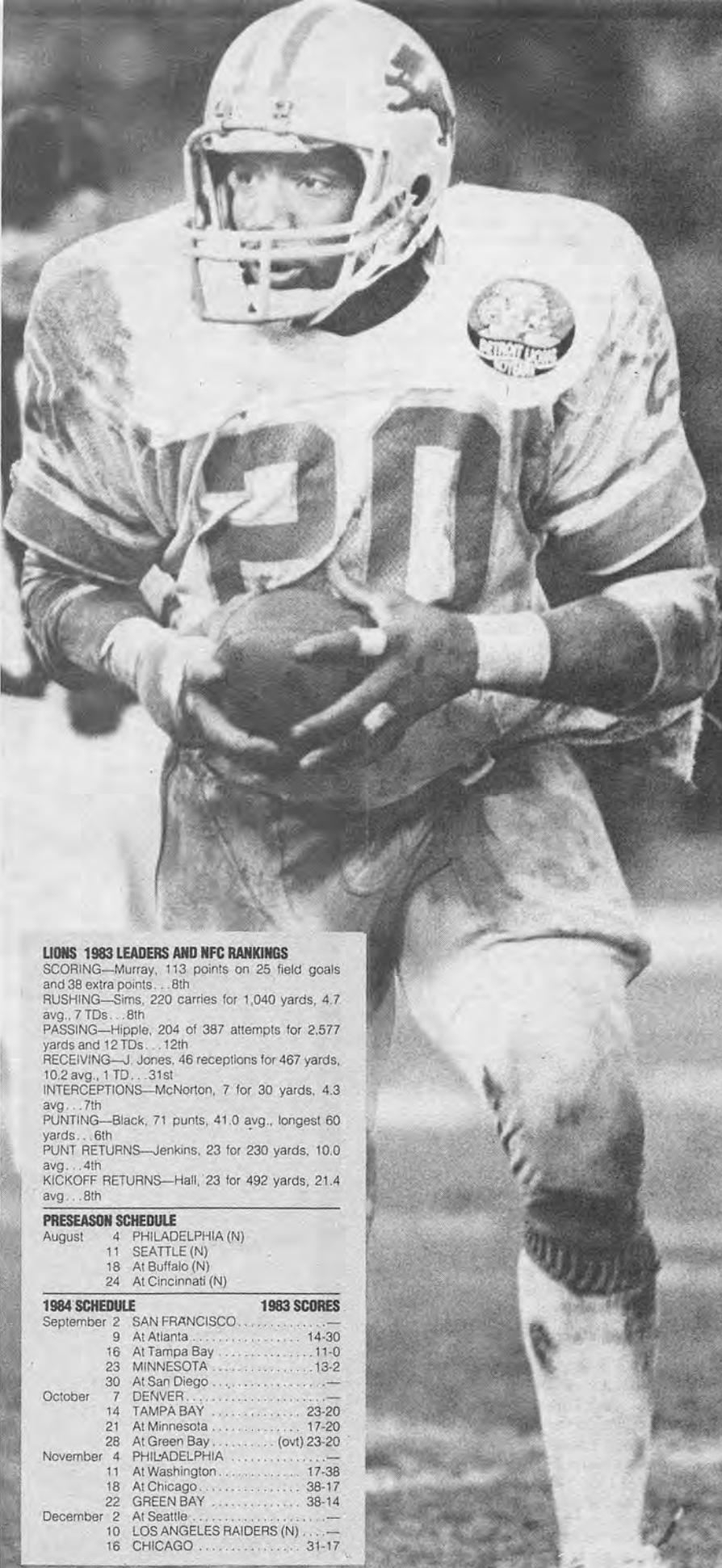
On defense the Lions field an effective combination of youth and experience. They led the NFC in fewest points allowed, thanks primarily to a front four led by tackles William Gay and Doug English. Gay lined up at end and tackle and was fourth in the conference in sacks. He was named the most valuable defensive player by his teammates. English was fifth in the conference in sacks and was named to his third straight Pro Bowl. Gay was able to move from Baker's spot at end to tackle because of the rapid development of rookie Mike Cofer, who made the transition from college linebacker to down lineman. Left end is manned by Curtis Green. Mike Dawson and Martin Moss are reserves who will be pushed by third-round additions Eric Williams of Washington State and Steve Baack of Oregon.

Ken Fantetti has started every game for four seasons at middle linebacker and has led the club in tackles each year. Jimmy Williams came on to start every game in his second season at right linebacker. Garry Cobb, who serves as captain of the defense, starts his sixth season at left linebacker. Former basketball player Roosevelt Barnes is a capable backup and special-teams' star. Steve Doig and James Harrell are reliable reserves.

Cornerbacks Bobby Watkins and Bruce McNorton emerged as solid players in their second seasons. McNorton didn't start until the ninth game, then intercepted seven passes in seven games as opponents tried in vain to prove he didn't belong. Safeties Alvin Hall, now in his fourth year, and William Graham, in his third, provide the Lions with a solid future in their backfield. Al Latimer, who was injured and replaced by McNorton, will challenge for time, along with Maurice Harvey, Demetrious Johnson, and Dan Wagoner.

Eddie Murray converted 25 of 32 field goals and all 38 extra points. His string of 122 extra points is the longest in the league. Mike Black started faster than he finished as a rookie punter. He should develop more consistency.

Billy Sims rushed for over 1,000 yards for the Lions last season.



LIONS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Murray, 113 points on 25 field goals and 38 extra points...8th
 RUSHING—Sims, 220 carries for 1,040 yards, 4.7 avg., 7 TDs...8th
 PASSING—Hipple, 204 of 387 attempts for 2,577 yards and 12 TDs...12th
 RECEIVING—J. Jones, 46 receptions for 467 yards, 10.2 avg., 1 TD...31st
 INTERCEPTIONS—McNorton, 7 for 30 yards, 4.3 avg...7th
 PUNTING—Black, 71 punts, 41.0 avg., longest 60 yards...6th
 PUNT RETURNS—Jenkins, 23 for 230 yards, 10.0 avg...4th
 KICKOFF RETURNS—Hall, 23 for 492 yards, 21.4 avg...8th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| August 4 | PHILADELPHIA (N) |
| 11 | SEATTLE (N) |
| 18 | At Buffalo (N) |
| 24 | At Cincinnati (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | 1984 SCHEDULE | 1983 SCORES |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| September 2 | SAN FRANCISCO | — |
| 9 | At Atlanta | 14-30 |
| 16 | At Tampa Bay | 11-0 |
| 23 | MINNESOTA | 13-2 |
| 30 | At San Diego | — |
| October 7 | DENVER | — |
| 14 | TAMPA BAY | 23-20 |
| 21 | At Minnesota | 17-20 |
| 28 | At Green Bay | (ovt) 23-20 |
| November 4 | PHILADELPHIA | — |
| 11 | At Washington | 17-38 |
| 18 | At Chicago | 38-17 |
| 22 | GREEN BAY | 38-14 |
| December 2 | At Seattle | — |
| 10 | LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N) | — |
| 16 | CHICAGO | 31-17 |

CHICAGO BEARS

The Bears have started six of the last seven seasons with a 3-5 record. The exception was a 2-6 start. It is easy, therefore, to zero in on coach Mike Ditka's priority for 1984. For starters, he planned to take his team away from the friendly environs of their suburban Chicago training facility. They will begin training camp just the way the late George Halas used to begin—in a remote area far from the distractions of modern life. The exact location was kept secret for as long as possible in hopes that maybe no one would ever find out. Ideally, Ditka wanted to blindfold the players as they boarded a bus.

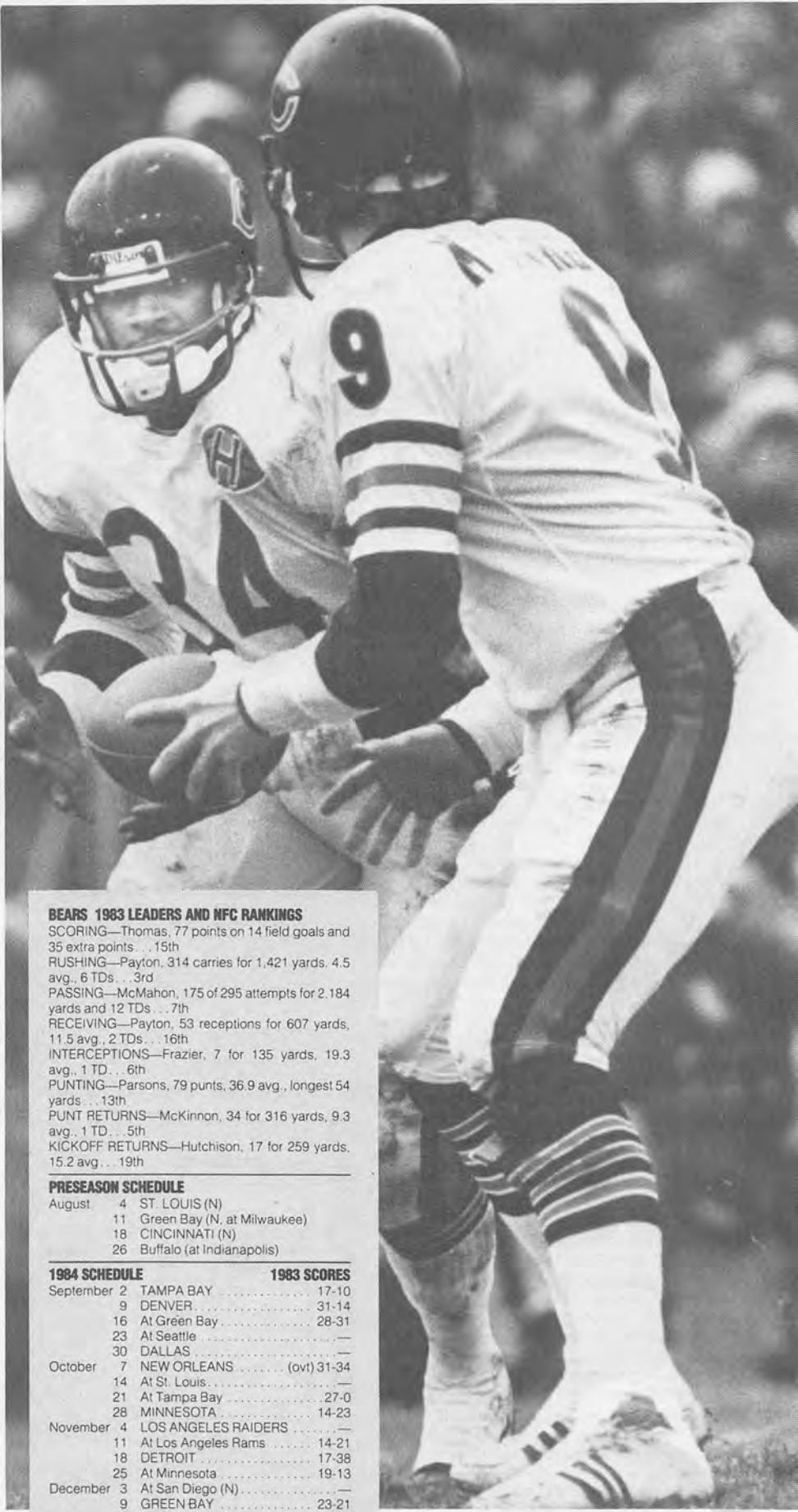
The Bears always manage to finish like gangbusters, coming alive just in time to be too late. Ditka wants to change the pattern. With three teams at 8-8 and the winner of the NFC Central at 9-7, little things mean a lot.

Getting the right person to play quarterback was a problem that proved costly last season. Ditka gave the reins to second-year man Jim McMahon to start the season, but good preseason performances by Vince Evans and Bob Avellini caused Ditka to use the hook on McMahon in early games. Evans started three times before Ditka went back to McMahon with such conviction that Evans decided his future was in the USFL. McMahon is a resourceful quarterback who is particularly effective when he moves out of the pocket and makes things happen on the run. Yet he ended the season with 13 interceptions and 12 touchdowns, a stark turnaround from his college days, when he rarely threw an interception. The Bears traded for former Chiefs' starter Steve Fuller, who did not play a down during 1983 with the Rams. Rookie Mark Casale of Montclair State, the ninth-round draft choice, also is expected to be more than just a camp player.

How McMahon and Ditka divide the ball between Walter Payton and Willie Gault will be one of the keys to the team's success. Payton returns for his tenth season in a Hall of Fame career. By the end of the year he should have the all-time rushing record, unless Franco Harris gets there first and refuses to leave. Payton gained 1,421 yards on 314 carries and caught 53 passes for 607 yards in another routinely spectacular season. It was all the more remarkable because he was performing on two knees that required arthroscopic surgery after the season to correct "normal wear and tear." "My 11,00-yard checkup," said Payton, confident of a full recovery.

"He's simply the best running back in professional football," said Ditka. In one game, against New Orleans last year, Payton rushed for 161 yards and a touchdown, had two receptions, and threw two TD passes—all while nursing a knee injury that knocked him out of the following week's game. Complementing Payton is Matt Suhey, who is coming off his finest season. He had two 100-yard games and caught 49 passes. Behind the two starters are Calvin Thomas, Dennis Gentry, and Anthony Hutchison.

Bears' quarterback Jim McMahon and running back Walter Payton

**BEARS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS**

SCORING—Thomas, 77 points on 14 field goals and 35 extra points...15th
RUSHING—Payton, 314 carries for 1,421 yards, 4.5 avg., 6 TDs...3rd
PASSING—McMahon, 175 of 295 attempts for 2,184 yards and 12 TDs...7th
RECEIVING—Payton, 53 receptions for 607 yards, 11.5 avg., 2 TDs...16th
INTERCEPTIONS—Frazier, 7 for 135 yards, 19.3 avg., 1 TD...6th
PUNTING—Parsons, 79 punts, 36.9 avg., longest 54 yards...13th
PUNT RETURNS—McKinnon, 34 for 316 yards, 9.3 avg., 1 TD...5th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Hutchison, 17 for 259 yards, 15.2 avg...19th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|--------|----|-----------------------------|---|
| August | 4 | ST. LOUIS (N) | — |
| | 11 | Green Bay (N, at Milwaukee) | — |
| | 18 | CINCINNATI (N) | — |
| | 26 | Buffalo (at Indianapolis) | — |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|----|---------------------|-------------|
| September | 2 | TAMPA BAY | 17-10 |
| | 9 | DENVER | 31-14 |
| | 16 | At Green Bay | 28-31 |
| | 23 | At Seattle | — |
| | 30 | DALLAS | — |
| October | 7 | NEW ORLEANS | (ovt) 31-34 |
| | 14 | At St. Louis | — |
| | 21 | At Tampa Bay | 27-0 |
| | 28 | MINNESOTA | 14-23 |
| November | 4 | LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | — |
| | 11 | At Los Angeles Rams | 14-21 |
| | 18 | DETROIT | 17-38 |
| | 25 | At Minnesota | 19-13 |
| December | 3 | At San Diego (N) | — |
| | 9 | GREEN BAY | 23-21 |
| | 16 | At Detroit | 17-31 |

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At wide receiver, Gault caught six touchdown passes during a three-game period early in the season, then managed to get only two more the rest of the way. He wondered why, thinking McMahon and Ditka were ignoring him. Gault joined the club late in the pre-season after winning a gold medal at the World Championships of track. His speed stretches defenses, whether he gets the ball or not, opening up things for everyone else on the field. Winning a job opposite Gault was free-agent rookie Dennis McKinnon. He caught 20 passes, four for touchdowns. Former starter Brian Baschnagel will be competing for playing time. Ken Margerum is out for the year with an injury. At tight end, Ditka's favorite position, are Emery Moorehead, Pat Dunsmore, and Jay Saldi.

Ditka thinks his young offensive line will be the team's strength in 1984. Jimbo Covert played well for a rookie at left tackle, and he figures to improve. Kurt Becker developed into an intense starter at right guard; Jay Hilgenberg took over for the injured Dan Neal at center. Former Dallas and Cleveland reserve Andy Frederick pushed erstwhile No. 1 Keith Van Horne at right tackle, and second-year man John Janata may push them both this year. An interesting battle is shaping up at left guard, where large Noah Jackson has started for nine years. Ditka has demanded that Jackson lose weight. To provide incentive, he drafted Stefan Humphries from Michigan in the third round. In reserve are Rob Fada,

Mark Bortz, Tim Norman, and fourth-round draftee Tom Andrews of Louisville.

The defense depends on a few things changing and a few things staying the same. Ditka needs a healthy season out of Dan Hampton, who has been all-pro at both end and tackle. He'll start this season at right tackle, unless no one comes through at right end. Steve McMichael emerged as a steady tackle and consistent pass rusher. Jim Osborne returns for his thirteenth season at tackle. And the Bears have an interesting rookie in eleventh-round draftee Mark Butkus, the nephew of former linebacker Dick. Left end Mike Hartenstine is coming off his best season. Right end is in the hands of second-year man Richard Dent and Tyrone Keys, unless linebacker Al Harris moves back. He was switched to linebacker when the Bears were short of outside people. After they drafted outside linebackers Wilber Marshall and Ron Rivera in the first two rounds, the Bears might move Harris back to the line.

Ditka envisions Marshall and Rivera flanking Pro Bowl starting middle linebacker Mike Singletary. Rivera, though, will first have to beat out former No. 1 draft choice Otis Wilson on the left side. Former right-side starter Gary Campbell was released. David Simmons, Kelvin Atkins, Dan Rains, and Brian Cabral will fight for backup jobs.

The Bears wanted to draft a cornerback, as most teams did, but didn't get around to it until the tenth round, when they added Ohio State's Shaun Gayle. They were happy with the conversion of former safety Mike Richardson to starting left corner last year, and Leslie Frazier led the club in interceptions, with seven, at right cornerback. After them, the only proven corner is veteran Terry Schmidt, the nickel back. Todd Bell emerged as a leader and a vital element of the defense in his first year as the starting strong safety. In various defensive alignments he is asked to play a linebacker or cornerback role as well, making him "the one man we can't afford to lose back there," according to coordinator Buddy Ryan. Former all-pro Gary Fencik made the successful switch to free safety but missed most of the season with a groin injury. His return will stabilize the defense. In his absence, rookie Dave Duerson played well enough to earn another look. Kevin Potter will challenge Jeff Fisher for a reserve job.

The Bears feature linebacker Mike Singletary (left), receiver Willie Gault, and defensive tackles Dan Hampton and Jim Osborne (top).



BEARS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. | name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|-----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 51 | Atkins, Kelvin | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 2 | 24 | Illinois |
| 7 | Avellini, Bob | QB | 6-2 | 210 | 10 | 31 | Maryland |
| 84 | Baschnagel, Brian | WR | 6-0 | 184 | 9 | 30 | Ohio St. |
| 79 | Becker, Kurt | G | 6-5 | 270 | 3 | 26 | Michigan |
| 25 | Bell, Todd | S | 6-0 | 207 | 4 | 26 | Ohio St. |
| 62 | Bortz, Mark | G | 6-5 | 267 | 2 | 23 | Iowa |
| 54 | Cabral, Brian | LB | 6-1 | 224 | 6 | 28 | Colorado |
| 74 | Covert, Jimbo | T | 6-4 | 271 | 2 | 24 | Pittsburgh |
| 95 | Dent, Richard | DE | 6-5 | 240 | 2 | 24 | Tenn. St. |
| 22 | Duerson, Dave | S | 6-0 | 202 | 2 | 24 | Notre Dame |
| 88 | Dunsmore, Pat | TE | 6-2 | 230 | 2 | 25 | Drake |
| 64 | Fada, Rob | G | 6-2 | 258 | 2 | 23 | Pittsburgh |
| 45 | Fencik, Gary | S | 6-1 | 197 | 9 | 30 | Yale |
| 24 | Fisher, Jeff | CB | 5-10 | 195 | 4 | 26 | Southern Cal. |
| 21 | Frazier, Leslie | CB | 6-0 | 189 | 4 | 25 | Alcorn St. |
| 71 | Frederick, Andy | T | 6-6 | 265 | 8 | 30 | New Mexico |
| 83 | Gault, Willie | WR | 6-0 | 178 | 2 | 24 | Tennessee |
| 29 | Gentry, Dennis | RB | 5-8 | 173 | 3 | 25 | Baylor |
| 99 | Hampton, Dan | DT | 6-5 | 270 | 6 | 27 | Arkansas |
| 90 | Harris, Al | LB | 6-5 | 250 | 6 | 28 | Arizona St. |
| 73 | Hartenstine, Mike | DE | 6-3 | 243 | 10 | 31 | Penn St. |
| 63 | Hilgenberg, Jay | C | 6-3 | 260 | 4 | 25 | Iowa |
| 32 | Hutchison, Anthony | WR | 5-10 | 180 | 2 | 23 | Texas Tech |
| 65 | Jackson, Noah | G | 6-2 | 265 | 10 | 33 | Tampa |
| 72 | Janata, John | T | 6-7 | 255 | 2 | 23 | Illinois |
| 98 | Keys, Tyrone | DE | 6-7 | 260 | 2 | 25 | Mississippi St. |
| 82 | Margerum, Ken | WR | 6-0 | 180 | 4 | 26 | Stanford |
| 85 | McKinnon, Dennis | WR | 6-2 | 185 | 2 | 23 | Florida St. |
| 9 | McMahon, Jim | QB | 6-0 | 187 | 3 | 25 | Brigham Young |
| 76 | McMichael, Steve | DT | 6-2 | 260 | 5 | 27 | Texas |
| 87 | Moorehead, Emery | TE | 6-2 | 220 | 8 | 30 | Colorado |
| 68 | Osborne, Jim | DT | 6-3 | 245 | 13 | 35 | Southern U. |
| 34 | Payton, Walter | RB | 5-10 | 202 | 10 | 30 | Jackson St. |
| 20 | Potter, Kevin | S | 5-10 | 188 | 2 | 25 | Missouri |
| 53 | Rains, Dan | LB | 6-1 | 220 | 3 | 28 | Cincinnati |
| 27 | Richardson, Mike | CB | 6-0 | 188 | 2 | 23 | Arizona St. |
| 81 | Saldi, Jay | TE | 6-3 | 230 | 9 | 30 | South Carolina |
| 44 | Schmidt, Terry | DB | 6-0 | 177 | 11 | 32 | Balt. St. |
| 57 | Simmons, Dave | LB | 6-4 | 225 | 4 | 27 | North Carolina |
| 50 | Singletary, Mike | LB | 5-11 | 230 | 4 | 26 | Baylor |
| 19 | Stachowicz, Ray | P | 6-0 | 185 | 4 | 25 | Michigan St. |
| 26 | Suhey, Matt | RB | 5-11 | 217 | 5 | 26 | Penn St. |
| 16 | Thomas, Bob | K | 5-10 | 175 | 9 | 32 | Notre Dame |
| 33 | Thomas, Calvin | RB | 5-11 | 220 | 3 | 24 | Illinois |
| 78 | Van Horne, Keith | T | 6-6 | 265 | 4 | 27 | Southern Cal. |
| 80 | Watts, Rickey | WR | 6-1 | 203 | 6 | 28 | Tulsa |
| 43 | Williams, Wall | CB | 6-1 | 185 | 8 | 28 | New Mexico |
| 55 | Wilson, Otis | LB | 6-2 | 222 | 5 | 27 | Louisville |

DRAFTEES

| no. | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|-----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------|
| 1 | Marshall, Wilber | LB | 6-1 | 230 | Florida |
| 2 | Rivera, Ron | LB | 6-3 | 235 | California |
| 3 | Humphries, Stefan | OG | 6-4 | 248 | Michigan |
| 4 | Andrews, Tom | OG | 6-4 | 250 | Louisville |
| 7 | Roberson, Nakita | RB | 5-11 | 211 | Cent. Arkansas |
| 8 | Anderson, Brad | WR | 6-3 | 196 | Arizona |
| 9 | Casale, Mark | QB | 6-2 | 225 | Montclair St. |
| 10 | Vestman, Kurt | TE | 6-3 | 235 | Idaho |
| 11 | Gayle, Shaun | DB | 5-11 | 195 | Illinois St. |
| 12 | Butkus, Mark | DT | 6-4 | 260 | Illinois |
| 13 | Jordan, Donald | RB | 6-0 | 201 | Houston |



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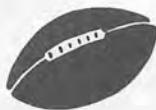
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GREEN BAY PACKERS

Vince Lombardi called Forrest Gregg "the greatest player I ever coached!" After Bart Starr, the greatest quarterback Lombardi ever coached, who could be more suited to coach the Green Bay Packers than Forrest Gregg? Since Gregg blocked for Starr for 15 years, it is appropriate that Starr has paved the way for Gregg.

The Packers aren't a bad team. They averaged 26.8 points a game last year. Their problem was that they gave up 27.4 and ended up 8-8. Gregg recognized this immediately by retaining Starr's offensive coach, Bob Schnelker, and bringing along his own defensive coaches from Cincinnati. Coordinator Hank Bullough later left for the USFL. The Bengals led the league in defense despite starting the year without end Ross Browner. The Packers had to play a whole year without defensive end Mike Butler, who went to the USFL, and most of the year without their two nose tackles, Terry Jones and Rich Turner. The Packers made defensive linemen their first two draft choices: Alphonso Carreker of Florida State and Donnie Humphrey of Auburn.

Quarterback Lynn Dickey will turn 35 in the middle of the season. He hopes to repeat last year's production, when he set an NFC record by passing for 4,458 yards. In his best season ever, Dickey set club records for pass attempts (484), completions (289), and touchdown passes (32). He directed an offense that can play with anybody and proved it in a memorable Monday night victory over the world champion Washington Redskins, 48-47. Developing backup help in critical. When Dickey was injured in a pivotal game against Detroit last season, the Packers wound up blowing a 20-3 halftime lead and lost, 23-20. Gregg said former No. 1 draft choice Rich Campbell will get a chance to show what he can do in training camp, along with last year's backup, David Whitehurst. Gregg also signed a free agent from Canada, Dan Ferady, and drafted Wisconsin's Randy Wright in the sixth round. Dickey threw 29 interceptions along with his 32 touchdown passes, but when a team has to score 48 points just to stay one up, a quarterback tends to take chances.

Dickey has developed good rapport with receivers James Lofton, John Jefferson, and Paul Coffman, three of the best in the league. After a year of figuring out how to divide the work, Schnelker managed to keep both Lofton and Jefferson happy. Lofton caught 58 passes, Jefferson 57, and tight end Coffman 54. Lofton and Jefferson each had seven touchdown catches. With an average of 22.4 yards a catch, Lofton remains the No. 1 deep threat in football. As if Lofton and Jefferson weren't enough to worry opponents, third receiver Phillip Epps is the fastest man on the team and gives Dickey another dimension the

Quarterback Lynn Dickey had a record-setting year for Green Bay.

**PACKERS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS**

SCORING—Stenerud, 115 points on 21 field goals and 52 extra points...7th
RUSHING—Ellis, 141 carries for 696 yards, 4.9 avg., 4 TDs...14th
PASSING—Dickey, 289 of 484 attempts for 4,458 yards and 32 TDs...5th
RECEIVING—Lofton, 58 receptions for 1,300 yards, 22.4 avg., 8 TDs...9th
INTERCEPTIONS—Lewis, 5 for 111 yards, 22.2 avg...14th
PUNTING—Scribner, 69 punts, 41.6 avg., longest 70 yards...3rd
PUNT RETURNS—Epps, 36 for 324 yards, 9.0 avg., 1 TD...6th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Huckleby, 41 for 757 yards, 18.5 avg...17th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|---------------------------|
| August | 4 | At Dallas (N) |
| | 11 | CHICAGO (N, at Milwaukee) |
| | 18 | At Los Angeles Rams (N) |
| | 25 | INDIANAPOLIS (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|-----------|----|--------------------------|------------------|
| September | 2 | ST. LOUIS | |
| | 9 | At Los Angeles Raiders | |
| | 16 | CHICAGO | |
| | 23 | At Dallas | |
| | 30 | At Tampa Bay | (ovt)12-9 |
| October | 7 | SAN DIEGO | |
| | 15 | At Denver (N) | |
| | 21 | SEATTLE (at Milwaukee) | (ovt)20-23 |
| | 28 | DETROIT | (ovt)20-23 |
| November | 4 | At New Orleans | |
| | 11 | MINNESOTA (at Mil.) | (ovt)17-20 |
| | 18 | L.A. RAMS (at Milwaukee) | 27-24 |
| | 22 | At Detroit | 14-38 |
| December | 2 | TAMPA BAY | 55-14 |
| | 9 | At Chicago | 21-23 |
| | 16 | At Minnesota | 29-21 |

Packers hope to exploit more in 1984. Ron Cassady is a veteran backup. Coffman led the club in touchdown catches, with 11, and will contest for Pro Bowl honors again in his seventh season. Gregg will look for backup help among free agents John Casanova, Greg Knaufel, and Bob Mireski.

The balance in the Packer passing game extended to the running backs, where Gerry Ellis caught 52 passes. He made a successful switch from fullback to tailback, leading the club in rushing (696 yards at an outstanding 4.9-yard average). Ellis went to tailback after Eddie Lee Ivery took time off to enter a drug rehabilitation unit. Ivery is scheduled to return, and Gregg says he "will get the same opportunity as everybody else." The switch of Ellis was made simple by the emergence of impressive rookie Jessie Clark at fullback. The 230-pound Clark will be hard to unseat this year. With 225-pound Mike Meade to back up Clark and the 225-pound Ellis, no team has a bigger collection of backs. Harlan Huckleby is a capable reserve tailback.

The offensive line did a fairly good job of keeping the immobile Dickey on his feet last

season. Rookie David Drechsler surprised even his teammates with his fast development at left guard, where he will start again beside the old man of the team, Pro Bowl center Larry McCarron. Competition for the starting right-guard spot will be among Syd Kitson, Tim Huffman, Leotis Harris, and Ron Sams. Right tackle is in the capable hands of the underrated Greg Koch, backed by Ron Hallstrom, who was too big (6-6, 285) to play guard. Karl Swarke is a good pass protector at the vital left-tackle spot. Larry Rubens is McCarron's backup.

The Packers were 28th in the league in yardage allowed, giving Gregg and staff good cause for alarm. Right end Ezra Johnson had an outstanding year, considering that offenses could keep a special eye on him as the team's only established pass rusher. Left end Byron Braggs plays the run better than he chases quarterbacks. Rookies Carreker and Humphrey will get plenty of opportunity to win starting jobs. The 6-6, 255-pound Carreker is an accomplished pass rusher whose major weakness fits in with the Packers: he needs to get stronger. Humphrey could be the answer at nose tackle if the 6-2, 275-pounder is able to avoid the knee injuries that have curtailed him the last two years. Greg Boyd, Bob Brown, and Ron Spears also will be looking for work.

Linebackers Mike Douglass, John Anderson, and George Cumby all made at least 100 tackles last year. They are mobile and talented, but small. Randy Scott, coming off an injury, and Cumby played the inside spots at 220 pounds apiece, hardly big enough to take on bigger guards. Douglass weighs only 210. When Scott was out, 225-pound Rich Wingo played the middle. The Packers drafted 6-2, 240-pound John Dorsey of Connecticut in the fourth round and hope he can lend some beef to the middle. Canadian free agents Dan Fuller and John Pointer also are expected to make strong bids for spots.

The Packers were ranked near the bottom of the heap in passing yardage allowed, putting pressure on the secondary as well as the rush. New backfield coach Ken Riley might move former cornerbacks Mike McCoy and Estus Hood to safety to compete with starters Johnnie Gray and Mark Murphy. Mark Lee and Tim Lewis appear set at the left and right corners, respectively. Dwayne O'Steen was impressive as a backup, and Gregg has added another free agent from Canada, Gary Hayes. Lewis ended up leading the team in interceptions, with five, as a rookie. Fifth-round draft choice Tom Flynn, a former teammate of Lewis's at Pitt, could challenge for a safety job.

Kickoff returns are a primary concern after the Packers finished 27th in the league. And field-goal kicking will be a question until the 41-year-old Jan Stenerud decides whether or not to retire. He had one of his best seasons, but could turn the reins over to Eddie Garcia, who kicked off last year. Left-footed punter Bucky Scribner finished third in the NFC as a rookie last season. Phil Epps is an explosive threat as a punt returner. His 90-yard dash was the longest in the NFC last year.

The Packers boast a lot of talent in wide receivers John Jefferson (#83) and James Lofton (top) and linebacker Mike Douglas (#53).



PACKERS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| 59 Anderson, John | LB | 6-3 | 229 | 7 | 28 | Michigan |
| 76 Bishop, Richard | NT | 6-1 | 283 | 8 | 34 | Louisville |
| 72 Boyd, Greg | DE | 6-6 | 280 | 7 | 32 | San Diego St. |
| 73 Braggs, Byron | DE | 6-4 | 270 | 4 | 25 | Alabama |
| 93 Brown, Robert | DE | 6-2 | 250 | 3 | 24 | Virginia Tech |
| 19 Campbell, Rich | QB | 6-4 | 219 | 4 | 26 | California |
| 88 Cassidy, Ron | WR | 6-0 | 180 | 5 | 27 | Utah St. |
| 33 Clark, Jessie | FB | 6-0 | 233 | 2 | 24 | Arkansas |
| 82 Coffman, Paul | TE | 6-3 | 225 | 7 | 28 | Kansas St. |
| 52 Cumby, George | LB | 6-0 | 224 | 5 | 28 | Oklahoma |
| 57 Curcio, Mike | LB | 6-1 | 232 | 4 | 27 | Temple |
| 12 Dickey, Lynn | QB | 6-4 | 203 | 14 | 35 | Kansas St. |
| 53 Douglass, Mike | LB | 6-0 | 214 | 7 | 29 | San Diego St. |
| 61 Drechsler, Dave | G | 6-3 | 264 | 2 | 24 | North Carolina |
| 31 Ellis, Gerry | RB | 5-11 | 225 | 5 | 27 | Missouri |
| 85 Epps, Phillip | WR | 5-10 | 155 | 3 | 25 | TCU |
| 59 Favon, Calvin | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 5 | 27 | S.E. Louisiana |
| 11 Garcia, Eddie | K | 5-8 | 178 | 2 | 25 | SMU |
| 24 Gray, Johnnie | S | 5-11 | 202 | 10 | 31 | Cal-Fullerton |
| 65 Hallstrom, Ron | T | 6-6 | 283 | 3 | 25 | Iowa |
| 69 Harris, Leotis | G | 6-1 | 265 | 7 | 29 | Arkansas |
| 33 Hood, Estus | DB | 5-11 | 189 | 7 | 29 | Illinois St. |
| 25 Huckleby, Harlan | RB | 6-1 | 201 | 5 | 27 | Michigan |
| 74 Huffman, Tim | G | 6-5 | 282 | 4 | 25 | Notre Dame |
| 40 Ivery, Eddie Lee | RB | 6-1 | 214 | 5 | 27 | Georgia Tech |
| 83 Jefferson, John | WR | 6-1 | 204 | 7 | 28 | Arizona St. |
| 99 Johnson, Charles | NT | 6-2 | 265 | 4 | 27 | Maryland |
| 90 Johnson, Ezra | DE | 6-4 | 259 | 7 | 29 | Morris Brown |
| 21 Jolty, Mike | DB | 6-3 | 185 | 4 | 26 | Michigan |
| 63 Jones, Terry | DT | 6-2 | 253 | 6 | 28 | Alabama |
| 64 Kitson, Syd | G | 6-4 | 264 | 4 | 28 | Wake Forest |
| 86 Knaufel, Greg | TE | 6-4 | 230 | 2 | 25 | Notre Dame |
| 68 Koch, Greg | T | 6-4 | 276 | 6 | 29 | Arkansas |
| 67 Lapka, Myron | NT | 6-4 | 260 | 3 | 28 | Southern Cal |
| 62 Laughlin, Jim | LB | 6-1 | 222 | 5 | 26 | Ohio St. |
| 22 Lee, Mark | CB | 5-11 | 188 | 5 | 26 | Washington |
| 56 Lewis, Cliff | LB | 6-1 | 224 | 4 | 25 | M. Mississippi |
| 26 Lewis, Tim | DB | 5-11 | 191 | 2 | 23 | Pittsburgh |
| 80 Lofton, James | WR | 6-3 | 197 | 7 | 28 | Stanford |
| 54 McCarron, Larry | C | 6-3 | 251 | 12 | 33 | Illinois |
| 29 McCoy, Mike C. | DB | 5-11 | 190 | 9 | 31 | Colorado |
| 39 Meade, Mike | RB | 5-10 | 224 | 3 | 24 | Penn St. |
| 37 Murphy, Mark | S | 6-2 | 201 | 4 | 26 | West Liberty St. |
| 44 O'Steen, Dwayne | CB | 6-1 | 195 | 7 | 30 | San Jose St. |
| 51 Prather, Guy | LB | 6-2 | 229 | 4 | 26 | Grambling |
| 35 Rodgers, Del | RB | 5-10 | 202 | 2 | 24 | Utah |
| 58 Rubens, Larry | C | 6-1 | 250 | 3 | 25 | Montana St. |
| 70 Sims, Ron | G | 6-3 | 269 | 2 | 23 | Pittsburgh |
| 55 Scott, Randy | LB | 6-1 | 222 | 4 | 25 | Alabama |
| 13 Scribner, Bucky | P | 6-0 | 202 | 2 | 24 | Kansas |
| 78 Skaugstad, Daryle | NT | 6-5 | 268 | 4 | 27 | California |
| 78 Spears, Ron | DE | 6-6 | 255 | 3 | 25 | San Diego St. |
| 10 Stenerud, Jan | K | 6-2 | 190 | 18 | 41 | Montana St. |
| 67 Swarke, Karl | DL | 6-6 | 262 | 5 | 27 | Boston College |
| 34 Thomasell, Rich | RB | 6-1 | 205 | 3 | 27 | W. Va. Wesleyan |
| 75 Turner, Richard | DT | 6-2 | 261 | 4 | 25 | Oklahoma |
| 17 Whitehurst, David | QB | 6-2 | 205 | 8 | 29 | Furman |
| 50 Wingo, Rich | LB | 6-1 | 227 | 5 | 28 | Alabama |
| 20 Winters, Chet | RB | 5-11 | 204 | 2 | 23 | Oklahoma |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|---------------|
| 1 | Carreker, Alphonso | DE | 6-6 | 260 | Florida St. |
| 3 | Humphrey, Donnie | DT | 6-3 | 275 | Auburn |
| 4 | Dorsey, John | LB | 6-2 | 235 | Connecticut |
| 5 | Flynn, Tom | DB | 6-0 | 195 | Pittsburgh |
| 6 | Wright, Randy | QB | 6-2 | 194 | Wisconsin |
| 7 | Jones, Daryll | DB | 6-0 | 190 | Georgia |
| 10 | Hoffman, Gary | OT | 6-7 | 282 | Santa Clara |
| 11 | Cannon, Mark | C | 6-3 | 258 | Arlington |
| 12 | Taylor, Lenny | WR | 5-11 | 179 | Tennessee |
| 12 | Emans, Mark | LB | 6-3 | 223 | Bowling Green |





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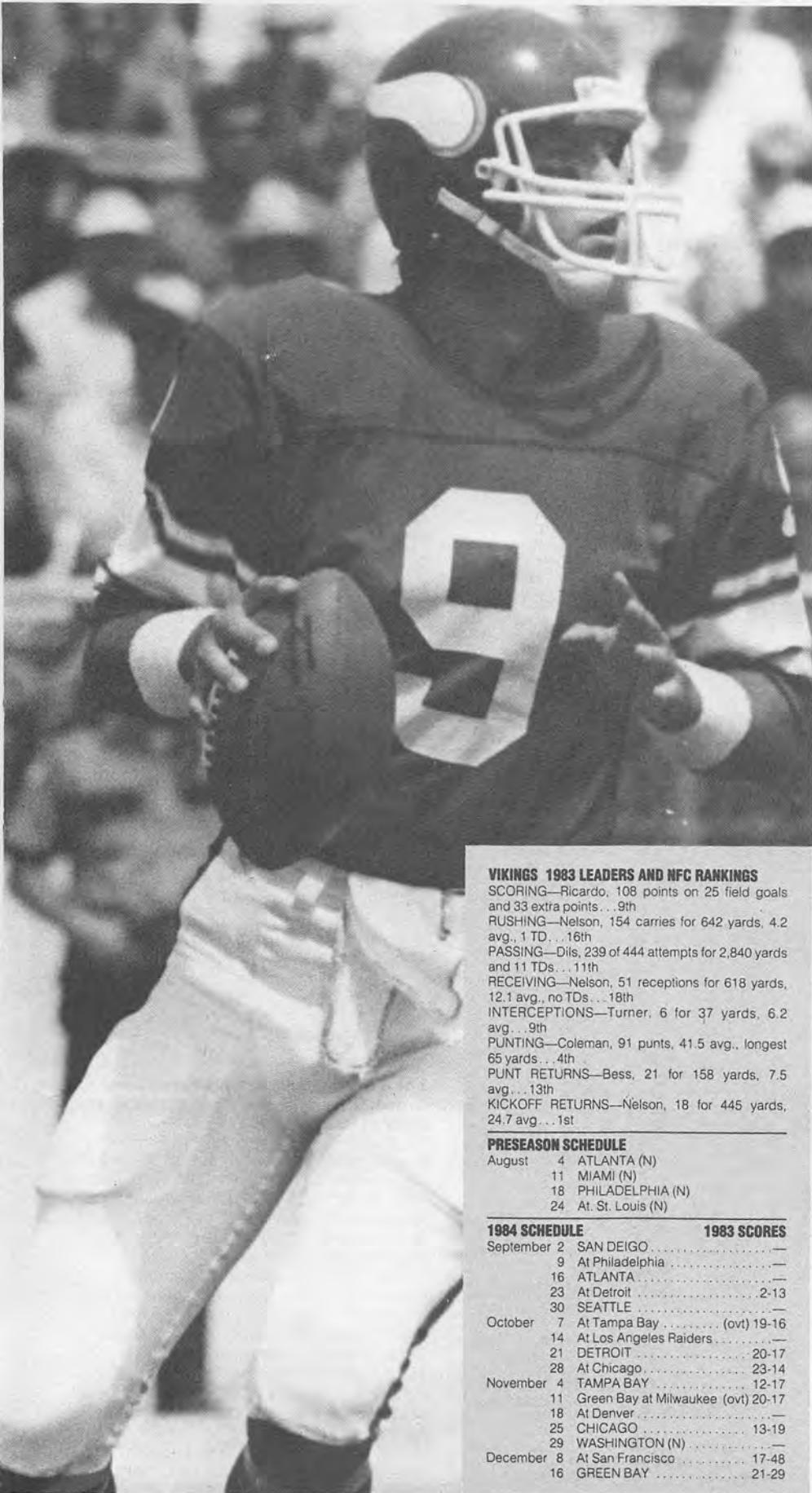
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MINNESOTA VIKINGS

"There's no way I can replace Bud Grant. He is the greatest football coach in pro history. I can't replace him, but I can follow him," said Les Steckel. After making that perfectly clear, Steckel is getting on with the business of not being Bud Grant. The Minnesota Vikings will report to training camp earlier this year. When they get there, it is more likely to resemble a boot camp. Grant was no softy, but he viewed conditioning as a matter of personal and professional pride. He expected players to be tough on themselves. Steckel, on the other hand, will be happy to lend a hand to anyone desiring such discipline.

One of Steckel's primary projects is running back Ted Brown, who missed six games with knee and shoulder injuries and other problems (a suspension for skipping therapy sessions and a team meeting). Most changes between the Grant and Steckel regimes, however, are likely to be subtle. Wholesale changes in attitude, philosophy, and routine might backfire, for despite their 8-8 record, the Vikings aren't broken and don't need much fixing.

The key to the Vikings' season are the comebacks of quarterback Tommy Kramer, who sat out 13 games with a knee injury, and tight end Joe Senser, who missed the whole season. Kramer is most important. In his brief appearance, he completed 67 percent of his passes even though he was operating without Senser and the retired Ahmad Rashad. The Vikings got off to a 2-1 start, and backup quarterback Steve Dils maintained the momentum until the Vikings took a two-game lead in the NFC Central at midseason with a 6-2 record. Dils was more than adequate in reserve, completing 239 of 444 passes for 2,840 yards and 11 touchdowns. He kept Archie Manning on the bench after Manning arrived from Houston. When both Dils and Manning were unavailable for the final game, Wade Wilson stepped in and made certain he won't be forgotten when training camp opens.

The running game has yet to reach its expected potential with Brown and Darrin Nelson. To provide incentive, the Vikings drafted a pair of Baylor running backs, Alfred Anderson and Allen Rice, and they could find places on the roster. Nelson, the team's leading rusher and receiver, started to flash some of the promise that made him the No. 1 running back in the 1982 draft, ahead of Marcus Allen. With Nelson and Brown, the Vikings have an enviable combination of speed, explosiveness, durability, and receiving skills. To complement them, the Vikings can line up with veterans Tony Galbreath and Rickey Young or the still-developing Jarvis Redwine.

Losing Rashad and Senser was enough to cripple any passing attack. Dils also had to get through five games without Sammy White, who was out with a pulled muscle. White still led the club in TD catches, with four. In his ninth season, he remains the key figure in the

VIKINGS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Ricardo, 108 points on 25 field goals and 33 extra points...9th
RUSHING—Nelson, 154 carries for 642 yards, 4.2 avg., 1 TD...16th
PASSING—Dils, 239 of 444 attempts for 2,840 yards and 11 TDs...11th
RECEIVING—Nelson, 51 receptions for 618 yards, 12.1 avg., no TDs...18th
INTERCEPTIONS—Turner, 6 for 37 yards, 6.2 avg...9th
PUNTING—Coleman, 91 punts, 41.5 avg., longest 65 yards...4th
PUNT RETURNS—Bess, 21 for 158 yards, 7.5 avg...13th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Nelson, 18 for 445 yards, 24.7 avg...1st

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------|----|------------------|
| August | 4 | ATLANTA (N) |
| | 11 | MIAMI (N) |
| | 18 | PHILADELPHIA (N) |
| | 24 | At St. Louis (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | | 1983 SCORES |
|-----------|----|------------------------------------|
| September | 2 | SAN DIEGO..... |
| | 9 | At Philadelphia..... |
| | 16 | ATLANTA..... |
| | 23 | At Detroit..... |
| | 30 | SEATTLE..... |
| October | 7 | At Tampa Bay..... (ovt) 19-16 |
| | 14 | At Los Angeles Raiders..... |
| | 21 | DETROIT..... |
| | 28 | At Chicago..... |
| November | 4 | TAMPA BAY..... 12-17 |
| | 11 | Green Bay at Milwaukee (ovt) 20-17 |
| | 18 | At Denver..... |
| | 25 | CHICAGO..... 13-19 |
| | 29 | WASHINGTON (N)..... |
| December | 8 | At San Francisco..... 17-48 |
| | 16 | GREEN BAY..... 21-29 |

Viking quarterback Tommy Kramer missed 13 games with a knee injury.

downfield portion of an attack that sends nearly everyone out. He is a consistent deep threat. Oposite White, a battle is brewing among Terry LeCount, Leo Lewis, Sam McCullum, and Mike Jones. This also is a make-or-break year for former top draft choice Mardye McDole.

The return of Senser and the availability of Dave Casper for an entire season will give the Vikings unusual strength and flexibility at tight end. Casper arrived with Manning from Houston and missed three games with an injury. He caught only 13 passes, but has plenty of life left at age 32. Senser has the ability to be the best tight end in football. He was beginning to develop into exactly that until cut down by injury. Steve Jordan and Bob Bruer will compete for the third spot.

Change is expected on the offensive line. Curtis Rouse, all 300 pounds of him, made a move to unseat veteran Steve Riley at left tackle last season. Riley is always supposed to either retire or get forced out of a job, yet he always ends up playing and playing well. Left guard Jim Hough is slated to switch to center, where his 275-pound frame is better suited to battling nose tackles straight up than Dennis Swilley, who has retired, managed with his 245 pounds. Right guard will be a fight between Brent Boyd and Wes Hamilton. Right tackle is in the hands of young and huge Tim Irwin, backed up by huge and young Terry Tausch. David Huffman jumped to the USFL.

Injury did not pass over the defense, which stayed at nineteenth in the league and dropped from fourteenth to 25th against the run. In an effort to improve, the Vikings made a defensive lineman their No. 1 draft choice for the fifth time in ten years. He is Keith Millard of Washington State. He will try to find a place on

jury-plagued John Haines of Texas, a seventh-round draftee, is another possibility.

Outside linebackers Matt Blair and Fred McNeil are entering their eleventh seasons, so fourth-year man Robin Sendlein will continue to press for playing time. Inside, Scott Studwell led the team in tackles. He and Dennis Johnson are backed up by Dennis Fowlkes and the promising Walker Lee Ashley, who also could contribute outside. The return of Mark Stewart from injured reserve further bulks up the middle.

The Vikings have the unusual luxury of experience and depth in the secondary. Willie Teal is solid on the right side; rookie Carl Lee ended up starting the final game on the left and showed promise. Rufus Bess and John Swain also started before missing games with injuries. Swain tied for the club lead in inter-



The Vikings' defense features Joey Browner (top) at one corner and Matt Blair at linebacker.



Linebacker Scott Studwell led Minnesota in tackles last year.

the three-man line that already has No. 1 draft choices Mark Mullaney, James White, Randy Holloway, and Doug Martin. Right end Mullaney missed nine games last season with a shoulder injury. Left end Martin led the club in sacks for the second year in a row. Mullaney's absence allowed Neil Elshire to blossom. He is a candidate to start this year. The nose-tackle spot is not so deep, with ex-Eagle Charlie Johnson slightly ahead of White. Big, in-

VIKINGS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|-----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 58 Ashley, Walker Lee | LB | 6-0 | 240 | 2 | 24 | Penn St. |
| 33 Bell, Rick | RB | 6-0 | 205 | 2 | 24 | St. John (MN) |
| 21 Bess, Rufus | CB | 5-9 | 185 | 6 | 28 | S.C. St. |
| 59 Blair, Matt | LB | 6-5 | 235 | 11 | 34 | Iowa St. |
| 62 Boyd, Brent | G | 6-3 | 275 | 5 | 27 | UCLA |
| 23 Brown, Ted | RB | 5-10 | 210 | 6 | 27 | N.C. St. |
| 47 Browner, Joey | DB | 6-2 | 205 | 2 | 24 | Southern Cal. |
| 82 Bruer, Bob | TE | 6-5 | 240 | 6 | 30 | Mankato St. |
| 87 Casper, Dave | TE | 6-4 | 241 | 11 | 32 | Notre Dame |
| 8 Coleman, Greg | P | 6-0 | 185 | 8 | 30 | Florida A&M |
| 7 Danmeier, Rick | K | 6-0 | 183 | 6 | 32 | Sioux Falls |
| 12 Dils, Steve | QB | 6-1 | 195 | 5 | 29 | Stanford |
| 73 Elshire, Neil | DE | 6-6 | 260 | 4 | 26 | Oregon |
| 50 Fowlkes, Dennis | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 2 | 23 | West Virginia |
| 32 Galbreath, Tony | RB | 6-0 | 228 | 9 | 30 | Missouri |
| 61 Hamilton, Wes | G | 6-3 | 270 | 9 | 31 | Tulsa |
| 45 Hannon, Tom | S | 5-11 | 195 | 8 | 29 | Michigan St. |
| 75 Holloway, Randy | DE | 6-5 | 255 | 7 | 29 | Pittsburgh |
| 51 Hough, Jim | G | 6-2 | 275 | 7 | 28 | Utah St. |
| 76 Irwin, Tim | T | 6-6 | 285 | 4 | 26 | Tennessee |
| 65 Johnson, Charlie | NT | 6-3 | 275 | 8 | 32 | Colorado |
| 52 Johnson, Dennis | LB | 6-3 | 235 | 5 | 26 | Southern Cal. |
| 89 Jones, Mike | WR | 5-11 | 176 | 2 | 24 | Tennessee St. |
| 83 Jordan, Steve | TE | 6-3 | 230 | 3 | 23 | Brown |
| 9 Kramer, Tommy | QB | 6-2 | 205 | 8 | 29 | Rice |
| 80 Le Count, Terry | WR | 5-10 | 185 | 7 | 28 | Florida |
| 39 Lee, Carl | DB | 5-11 | 185 | 2 | 23 | Marshall |
| 87 Lewis, Leo | WR | 5-8 | 170 | 4 | 28 | Missouri |
| 4 Manning, Archie | QB | 6-3 | 211 | 14 | 35 | Mississippi |
| 79 Martin, Doug | DE | 6-3 | 255 | 5 | 27 | Washington |
| 84 McCullum, Sam | WR | 6-2 | 195 | 11 | 32 | Montana St. |
| 88 McDole, Mardye | WR | 5-11 | 205 | 3 | 25 | Mississippi St. |
| 54 McNeill, Fred | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 11 | 32 | UCLA |
| 86 Mularkey, Mike | TE | 6-4 | 245 | 2 | 23 | Florida |
| 77 Mullaney, Mark | DE | 6-6 | 245 | 10 | 31 | Colorado St. |
| 20 Nelson, Darrin | RB | 5-9 | 180 | 3 | 25 | Stanford |
| 49 Nord, Kolin | S | 6-0 | 195 | 6 | 27 | St. Cloud (MN) |
| 22 Redwine, Jarvis | RB | 5-10 | 205 | 4 | 27 | Nebraska |
| 1 Ricardo, Benny | K | 5-10 | 170 | 7 | 30 | San Diego St. |
| 78 Riley, Steve | T | 6-6 | 260 | 11 | 32 | Southern Cal. |
| 68 Rouse, Curtis | G | 6-3 | 305 | 3 | 24 | Tenn.-Chat. |
| 57 Sendlein, Robin | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 4 | 26 | Texas |
| 81 Senser, Joe | TE | 6-4 | 235 | 5 | 28 | West Chester |
| 55 Studwell, Scott | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 8 | 30 | Illinois |
| 29 Swain, John | CB | 6-1 | 195 | 4 | 25 | Miami |
| 66 Tausch, Terry | T | 6-5 | 275 | 3 | 25 | Texas |
| 37 Teal, Willie | CB | 5-10 | 195 | 5 | 27 | LSU |
| 27 Turner, John | S | 6-0 | 200 | 7 | 28 | Miami |
| 72 White, James | NT | 6-3 | 270 | 9 | 31 | Oklahoma St. |
| 85 White, Sammy | WR | 5-11 | 195 | 9 | 30 | Grambling |
| 11 Wilson, Wade | QB | 6-3 | 210 | 4 | 25 | East Texas St. |
| 34 Young, Rickey | RB | 6-2 | 200 | 10 | 31 | Jackson St. |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|-----|-----------------|
| 1 | Millard, Keith | DE | 6-5 | 255 | Washington St. |
| 3 | Anderson, Alfred | RB | 6-1 | 215 | Baylor |
| 5 | Rice, Allen | RB | 5-10 | 200 | Baylor |
| 6 | Collins, Dwight | WR | 6-1 | 209 | Pittsburgh |
| 7 | Haines, John | DT | 6-6 | 266 | Texas |
| 7 | Lewis, Loyd | OG | 6-3 | 256 | Texas A&I |
| 8 | Sverchek, Paul | DT | 6-3 | 256 | Cal Poly-Olbrpo |
| 9 | Kidd, Keith | WR | 6-2 | 191 | Arkansas |
| 10 | Spencer, James | LB | 6-2 | 230 | Oklahoma St. |
| 11 | Pickett, Edgar | LB | 6-1 | 232 | Clemson |
| 11 | Thompson, Lawrence | WR | 5-11 | 167 | Miami |
| 12 | Jones, Mike | RB | 6-0 | 182 | N.C. A&T |

ceptions with safety John Turner, each with six. Veteran Tommy Hannon had no interceptions at the other corner and will be challenged by last year's No. 1 pick, Joey Browner. As a rookie, Browner was asked to play in too many places to allow him to master one.

There will be interesting competition at place-kicker if Rick Danmeier is able to come back from a back injury that eliminated him from the entire 1983 season. His replacement, Benny Ricardo, starting out by hitting his first 15 field-goal attempts but then left his job vulnerable by making only ten of his last 18. Greg Coleman set a team record with 91 punts, 28 inside the 20. Darrin Nelson led the NFC in kickoff-return yardage. The special teams maintained a Viking tradition by blocking five punts and a field goal.

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TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

In Tampa Bay, where standards for bad luck were set last year, the Buccaneer faithful have been given a reprieve of sorts. The 1984 schedule has been set up to eliminate suspense. Six of the Bucs' first eight games are against NFC Central rivals. By the end of October, the Buccaneers should know whether they have a chance of recovering from their 2-14 season.

The painful memory of that ineptitude is eased by a glance at hospital records. Losing quarterback Doug Williams to the USFL was bad enough. Losing players at every other position except wide receiver because of injury was enough to temper the most severe critics. Coach John McKay put 17 players on injured reserve and started 14 different combinations of people on his offensive line.

In the final four games of the season, which included a victory over Houston and two three-point defeats to Green Bay and Detroit, quarterback Jack Thompson threw 11 touchdown passes. His late emergence is an interesting story. Thompson had his best game in his last one, throwing three TD passes and completing 28 of 42 for 373 yards against NFC Central champ Detroit. After a rocky start trying to follow Williams's act and overcome the popularity of backup Jerry Gosteyn, Thompson finished with a better completion

Defensive end Lee Roy Selmon (#63), quarterback Jack Thompson, and linebacker Hugh Green (#53) of Bucs



percentage (58.9) than Williams ever had. McKay accused his players of subconsciously waiting until Thompson proved himself before they decided to help.

"What you have to remember is that Jack has had seven different coaches and seven different systems since he enrolled in college," said McKay. "He had seen limited action his last few years at Cincinnati and hadn't even practiced after sitting out much of 1982. Then he was asked to come in and take over in a difficult situation as a stranger. I think he did as well as we could expect." The Bucs acquired veteran quarterback Steve DeBerg from Denver to challenge Thompson in 1984. Jeff Komlo is another reserve.

An injury to running back James Wilder ended Tampa Bay's hopes of salvaging respectability last year. An accomplished fullback, Wilder was moved to tailback at mid-season and in his second game, carried the ball a record 42 times against Pittsburgh. The following week, he gained 219 yards in 31 carries against Minnesota in the team's first win. The week after that, he suffered a broken rib.



BUCCANEERS 1983 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Capeci, 53 points on 10 field goals and 23 extra points... 23rd

RUSHING—Wilder, 161 carries for 640 yards, 4.0 avg., 4 TDs... 17th

PASSING—Thompson, 249 of 423 attempts for 2,906 yards and 18 TDs... 10th

RECEIVING—Wilder, 57 receptions for 380 yards, 6.7 avg., 2 TDs... 11th

INTERCEPTIONS—Reece, 6 for 103 yards, 12.9 avg... 2nd

PUNTING—Garcia, 95 punts, 42.2 avg., longest 64 yards... 1st

PUNT RETURNS—A. Tyler, 27 for 208 yards, 7.7 avg... 11th

KICKOFF RETURNS—Morton, 30 for 689 yards, 23.0 avg... 2nd

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

| | July | 28 | Seattle (Hall of Fame game at Canton, OH) |
|--|--------|----|---|
| | August | 4 | HOUSTON (N) |
| | | 11 | CINCINNATI (N) |
| | | 18 | At Atlanta (N) |
| | | 24 | MIAMI (N) |

1984 SCHEDULE

| | September | 2 | At Chicago | 10-17 |
|--|-----------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | | 9 | At New Orleans | 21-24 |
| | October | 16 | DETROIT | 0-11 |
| | | 23 | At New York Giants | — |
| | | 30 | GREEN BAY | (ovt) 9-12 |
| | November | 7 | MINNESOTA | (ovt) 16-19 |
| | | 14 | At Detroit | 20-23 |
| | | 21 | CHICAGO | 0-27 |
| | | 28 | At Kansas City | — |
| | December | 4 | At Minnesota | 17-12 |
| | | 11 | NEW YORK GIANTS | — |
| | | 18 | At San Francisco | 21-35 |
| | | 25 | LOS ANGELES RAMS | — |
| | 2 | At Green Bay | — | 14-55 |
| | | 9 | ATLANTA | — |
| | | 16 | NEW YORK JETS | — |



BUCCANEERS VETERAN ROSTER

| no. name | pos | ht | wt | exp | age | college |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 69 Arubakr, Hasson | DE | 6-4 | 250 | 2 | 24 | Texas Tech |
| 46 Armstrong, Adger | RB | 6-0 | 225 | 5 | 24 | Texas A&M |
| 30 Barrett, David | RB | 6-0 | 235 | 2 | 25 | Houston |
| 82 Bell, Jerry | TE | 6-5 | 225 | 3 | 25 | Arizona St. |
| 83 Bell, Theo | WR | 6-0 | 190 | 8 | 31 | Arizona |
| 52 Brantley, Scot | LB | 6-1 | 230 | 5 | 26 | Florida |
| 34 Brown, Cedric | S | 6-2 | 200 | 8 | 30 | Kent St. |
| 74 Bujnoch, Glenn | G | 6-5 | 251 | 9 | 31 | Texas A&M |
| 78 Cannon, John | DE | 6-5 | 260 | 3 | 24 | William & Mary |
| 3 Capice, Bill | K | 5-7 | 170 | 4 | 25 | Florida St. |
| 87 Carter, Gerald | WR | 6-1 | 190 | 5 | 27 | Texas A&M |
| 28 Carver, Melvin | RB | 5-11 | 215 | 3 | 25 | UNLV |
| 23 Castile, Jeremiah | CB | 5-10 | 175 | 2 | 23 | Alabama |
| 20 Colzie, Neal | S | 6-2 | 205 | 10 | 31 | Ohio State |
| 33 Cotney, Mark | S | 6-0 | 205 | 9 | 32 | Cameron |
| 58 Davis, Jeff | LB | 6-0 | 230 | 3 | 24 | Clemson |
| DeBerg, Steve | QB | 6-3 | 205 | 8 | 30 | San Jose St. |
| Dierking, Scott | RB | 5-10 | 220 | 8 | 29 | Purdue |
| 62 Farrell, Sean | G | 6-3 | 260 | 3 | 24 | Penn St. |
| 5 Garcia, Frank | P | 6-0 | 205 | 2 | 27 | Arizona |
| 88 Giles, Jimmie | TE | 6-3 | 240 | 8 | 30 | Alcorn St. |
| 53 Green, Hugh | LB | 6-2 | 225 | 4 | 25 | Pittsburgh |
| 60 Grimes, Randy | OL | 6-4 | 265 | 2 | 24 | Baylor |
| 8 Hewko, Bob | QB | 6-3 | 195 | 2 | 24 | Florida |
| 21 Holt, John | CB | 5-11 | 175 | 4 | 25 | West Texas St. |
| 89 House, Kevin | WR | 6-1 | 175 | 5 | 27 | S. Illinois |
| 56 Johnson, Cecil | LB | 6-2 | 235 | 8 | 29 | Pittsburgh |
| 51 Judie, Ed | LB | 6-2 | 235 | 3 | 25 | N. Arizona |
| 7 Komlo, Jeff | QB | 6-2 | 195 | 6 | 28 | Delaware |
| 29 LaBeau, Sandy | S | 6-3 | 210 | 2 | 23 | Cal Hayward |
| 76 Logan, David | NT | 6-2 | 250 | 6 | 28 | Pittsburgh |
| 64 Lowry, Quentin | LB | 6-2 | 235 | 4 | 27 | Youngstown St. |
| 24 Morris, Thomas | DB | 5-11 | 175 | 3 | 24 | Michigan St. |
| 1 Morton, Michael | RB | 5-8 | 180 | 3 | 24 | UNLV |
| 86 Obradovich, Jim | TE | 6-2 | 225 | 10 | 31 | Southern Cal |
| 26 Owens, James | RB | 5-11 | 200 | 6 | 29 | UCLA |
| 75 Reavis, Dave | T | 6-5 | 265 | 10 | 34 | Arkansas |
| 43 Reece, Beasley | S | 6-1 | 195 | 9 | 30 | North Texas St. |
| 66 Reese, Booker | DE | 6-6 | 260 | 3 | 25 | B-Cookman |
| 74 Sanders, Eugene | T | 6-3 | 280 | 6 | 28 | Texas A&M |
| 63 Selmon, Lee Roy | DE | 6-3 | 250 | 9 | 30 | Oklahoma |
| 22 Smith, Johnny Ray | DB | 5-9 | 185 | 3 | 27 | Lamar |
| 72 Snell, Ray | G | 6-4 | 265 | 5 | 26 | Wisconsin |
| 55 Spradlin, Danny | LB | 6-1 | 235 | 4 | 25 | Tennessee |
| 70 Thomas, Kelly | T | 6-6 | 270 | 2 | 24 | Southern Cal |
| 41 Thomas, Norris | DB | 5-11 | 180 | 8 | 30 | Southern Miss |
| 14 Thompson, Jack | QB | 6-3 | 220 | 5 | 28 | Washington St. |
| 56 Thompson, Robert | LB | 6-3 | 225 | 2 | 24 | Michigan |
| 81 Tyler, Andre | WR | 6-0 | 180 | 3 | 25 | Stanford |
| 40 Washington, Mike | DB | 6-2 | 200 | 9 | 31 | Alabama |
| 90 White, Brad | NT | 6-2 | 255 | 4 | 26 | Tennessee |
| 32 Wilder, James | RB | 6-3 | 220 | 4 | 26 | Missouri |
| 93 Williams, Jamie | TE | 6-5 | 230 | 2 | 24 | Nebraska |
| 50 Wilson, Steve | C | 6-4 | 270 | 9 | 30 | Georgia |
| 85 Witte, Mark | TE | 6-3 | 235 | 2 | 25 | North Texas St. |
| 54 Wood, Richard | LB | 6-2 | 230 | 10 | 31 | Southern Cal |

DRAFTEES

| rd | name | pos | ht | wt | college |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|-----|--------------|
| 2 | Browner, Keith | LB | 6-6 | 215 | Southern Cal |
| 3 | Acorn, Fred | DB | 5-10 | 185 | Texas |
| 4 | Gunter, Michael | RB | 5-11 | 205 | Tulsa |
| 4 | Heller, Ron | OT | 6-6 | 265 | Penn St. |
| 6 | Washington, Chris | LB | 6-4 | 219 | Iowa St. |
| 7 | Carroll, Jay | TE | 6-4 | 223 | Minnesota |
| 8 | Robinson, Fred | DE | 6-4 | 240 | Miami |
| 9 | Mallory, Rick | OG | 6-2 | 265 | Washington |
| 10 | Gallagher, Jim | K | 6-1 | 200 | Minnesota |
| 11 | Kiel, Blair | QB | 6-0 | 200 | Notre Dame |
| 12 | Jemison, Thad | WR | 6-2 | 195 | Ohio St. |

Wilder will carry the burden this year, but McKay hopes he gets more help from Melvin Carver, Adger Armstrong, David Barrett, James Owens, Michael Morton, and new arrivals Scott Dierking from the Jets and Michael Gunter, a fourth-round draft choice from Tulsa with impressive statistics.

A late-season resurgence by wide receiver Kevin House also provides hope for 1984. After a shaky start during which he dropped key passes in a 17-12 loss to Pittsburgh, House had three 100-yard performances in the final six games. The emergence of Gerald Carter on the other side provided balance that had been lacking at the position. Carter caught 48 passes, one more than House. Veteran Theo Bell and young Andre Tyler also contributed.

Buccaneer tight ends caught more passes (54) than in any previous season, but missed the big-play talents of former Pro Bowl participant Jimmie Giles for most of the year. Giles sat out five games with assorted nagging injuries and played in four games without catching a pass. After threatening to jump ship, Giles signed a new contract. In Giles's absence, the Bucs were pleased with the development of Jerry Bell. They also have good blockers in Jim Obradovich and Mark Witte, and they picked up Jamie Williams from the Giants.

"We played the same offensive line only twice in 1983, and when we did, we moved the ball pretty well," said McKay, looking on the bright side. With George Yarno and Jim

Leonard going to the USFL, the Bucs lost two versatile and experienced players. McKay hopes Gene Sanders can finally blossom at left tackle, where Dave Reavis is a capable veteran. Left guard is open among Ray Snell, Glenn Bujnoch, and Randy Grimes. Grimes can also play center, his college position. He filled in for veteran Steve Wilson when Wilson was hurt. At right guard, the Bucs have Sean Farrell, who missed six games with a hamstring pull. At right tackle, Kelly Thomas started 13 games as a rookie before joining the injury brigade. The Bucs drafted Penn State tackle Ron Heller in the fourth round and hope he plays as well as Thomas, last year's fourth-rounder.

Injuries hit the defense, too, but defense is the strength of the Buccaneers. To insure it remains that, the Bucs made linebacker Keith Browner of USC and defensive back Fred Acorn of Texas their top two draft choices. Cornerback John Holt and nose tackle David Logan were the only two defenders to start every game in 1983.

Right end Lee Roy Selmon will be shooting for his sixth straight Pro Bowl appearance. When he missed much of the final five weeks with a pulled groin muscle, his value became all the more obvious. His 11 sacks led the team for the seventh time. Logan followed with 9½ sacks from nose tackle; John Cannon was the starter at left end, and Booker Reese played as the fourth lineman in passing situations and filled in when Cannon was hurt. Another defensive-end candidate is Hasson

Arbukakr, who made the team as a ninth-round draft choice a year ago.

Browner is expected to step in at left linebacker, where the Bucs lost Andy Hawkins to the USFL. Ed Judie and Cecil Johnson, two veterans, also will compete for the job. Inside, the Bucs are strong with Jeff Davis and Scot Brantley, backed up by Danny Spradlin and Richard Wood. Davis and Brantley finished second and third, respectively, in tackles to Hugh Green, who played despite a series of injuries. Even when an allergic reaction resulted in one of his eyes being swollen shut, Green made ten tackles in a game at San Francisco. With Green and Selmon on the right side, opponents have a tough way to go.

Under backfield coach Wayne Fontes, the Bucs have allowed fewer touchdown passes than any other team in the league since 1977. Even with their injury woes last season, they tied for the league low by giving up only 15 scoring passes. Holt started nine games at left corner and seven at right corner when Mike Washington was hurt. When Holt went to the right side, Jeremiah Castille played the left. The addition of Acorn should further strengthen the position. The Bucs found depth at the safety positions because of the injuries. When Neal Colzie got hurt, former starter Mark Cotney returned at strong safety. When Cedric Brown went out at free safety, the Bucs acquired Beasley Reece from the Giants, and he intercepted six passes in the final eight games. Thomas Morris, Johnny Ray Smith, and Sandy LaBeaux are backups.

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Steve Young

THE USFL REPORT

Awaiting a verdict on the future of the new league.

The United States Football League made splashes and also suffered cramps as it swam a second year in a sea that became increasingly turbulent. The springtime league improved its credibility by luring three Pro Bowl backs and several established players from the NFL, by signing the most coveted prospects in the collegiate draft, and by exploiting a landmark court decision to sign a celebrated underclassman. But the uncertainty surrounding the league's future did not disappear. Except for the New Jersey Generals, the teams in the largest cities floundered at the gate. The Chicago Blitz, averaging under 8,000 per game, had to be rescued and operated by the league until new owners were found. The Washington Federals, in worse financial condition than the Blitz, were sold and relocated in Miami (under Howard Schnellenberger). Overall, however, attendance was up, thanks to Birmingham, Jacksonville, Denver, and New Orleans. Television ratings were up by one point after eight games, and ABC picked up its option to televise USFL games in 1985.

The quality of play was perplexing. Free agents and players with so-so college credentials contended for all-star awards, lending credence to those who claim the USFL is mediocre. But if it is, why didn't more of the NFL defectors stand out? A vice president of an NFL team said he was "happy to see some of my friends find work" in the new league, but admitted, "It's a fraud to pass [it] off as a major league. They in no way are on a level with the NFL."

While there was considerable debate about how the USFL's best teams, such as the Philadelphia Stars, the Birmingham Stallions, and the Generals, would fare in the NFL, everyone agreed the new league got the old league's attention by signing so many heralded players to big money. The Generals, who created blockbuster news in 1983 by signing Heisman Trophy winner Herschel Walker when he had a year of eligibility left at Georgia, made waves again by signing quarterback Brian Sipe of Cleveland, the NFL's player of the year in 1980, and free safety Gary Barbaro of Kansas City, a three-time Pro Bowler. The Generals also enriched all-pro linebacker Lawrence Taylor by signing him and then selling his contract back to the New York Giants. Birmingham signed what many consider the most valuable of the NFL defectors, running back Joe Cribbs of Buffalo, who gained more than 1,000 yards and was a Pro Bowl selection in each of the three full seasons he played for the Bills.

It was widely agreed among NFL scouts that the USFL signed at least 30 of the best 100 players available in the college draft. The Pittsburgh Maulers, one of six expansion teams that brought league membership to 18, signed the USFL's second straight Heisman Trophy winner, tailback Mike Rozier of Nebraska, to a reported \$3 million contract.

But the Los Angeles Express made all deals pale in comparison by signing quarterback Steve Young of Brigham Young to a contract that reportedly will pay him \$36 million over 43 years. Besides signing the best quarterback (Young) and the best running back (Rozier) in the '84 draft, the USFL landed the best defensive linemen when the Memphis Showboats inked tackle Reggie White of Tennessee and the Stars signed tackle William Fuller of North Carolina.

Even before the USFL signed these collegians, NFL officials conceded that their first-year strategy of ignoring their new competitors was a failure. A new but low-key policy was designed to put pressure on the USFL by signing the capable but underpaid players the new league had developed. At a December meeting of the largest scouting combine in the NFL, the personnel director of a National Conference team explained the strategy:

"They (USFL) have been able to concentrate their money on a few players because they are not paying their other players," he said. "We have been scouting them, and they have found and developed some good players, especially linemen, who could play in the NFL. Most of them are only making \$45,000. They would make \$90,000 in the NFL."

"We are going to go after them. We will see how they like it when they have to start spending some of that money to keep the players they have. You won't see much movement this year. But they have a lot of players in the last year of their contracts. After this year, watch for a lot of changes."

One team that did not have to wait until the second year was over to be affected by this strategy was the defending champion Michigan Panthers. The Panthers won with a modest payroll in 1983, then fired general manager Jim Spavital, who was responsible for assembling the underrated talent. Spavital was replaced by Vincent H. Lombardi, more soft-spoken than his legendary father but no less compromising when it came to negotiating contracts. Lombardi inherited a team clamoring for higher wages and said: "I am not occasionally upset by the players' demands; I stay upset."

Michigan quarterback Bobby Hebert, the USFL's player of the year in 1983, held out and finally signed but was less effective. Linebacker John Corker, the USFL defensive player of the year in '83, refused to sign a new contract and played out his option. Corker's play also deteriorated, and he talked about rejoining Bum Phillips, who originally drafted him for the Houston Oilers, of the NFL's New Orleans Saints. Running back Ken Lacy, Michigan's leading rusher and second-team All-USFL, became the first Panther to defect to the NFL by signing with the Kansas City Chiefs.

Birmingham did not need offers from the NFL to shorten its honeymoon with Cribbs. After his third game, Cribbs decided his five-year, \$2,350,000 contract with the Stallions was "not all that I thought it was" and asked to have it renegotiated. After the tenth game, by which time Cribbs was the league's leading rusher and Birmingham had the league's second-best record, Cribbs did not report for practice for two days and was suspended.

Cribbs, Walker, and Kelvin Bryant of Philadelphia were clearly the USFL's best running backs. Rozier had disappointing statistics. But critics of Pittsburgh's offensive line may not have been exaggerating when they said Rozier had the benefit of better blocking at Nebraska. The USFL's most versatile back was Gary Anderson of Tampa, who ranked among the leaders in rushing, receiving, and scoring. Anderson, a first-round selection of the Chargers in 1983, sought to join San Diego after the USFL's first season, but the Bandits prevailed in a legal fight for his services.

After admittedly being a quarterback-poor league in 1983, the USFL shored up this position. Besides Sipe, from the NFL

came Doug Williams (Tampa Bay) to the Oklahoma Outlaws, Vince Evans (Chicago Bears) to the Blitz, and Cliff Stoudt (Pittsburgh Steelers) to the Stallions. In addition to Young, from the 1983 draft came Jim Kelly (Miami U.) to the Houston Gamblers, and from the 1984 draft came Walter Lewis (Alabama) to Memphis. With a novel four-receiver offense to exploit, Kelly became the USFL's most prolific passer and looked like a bargain at \$4 million for five years. Kelly's success softened the Gamblers' disappointment over losing their court battle with the Detroit Lions to determine whose contract with Billy Sims was binding.

The Express and the Generals made more news off the field than the USFL's other 16 teams did collectively on the field, thanks to their free-spending owners. J. William Oldenburg hired two front-office operatives who were proven stars from the signing wars of NFL-AFL days. Don Klosterman as general manager, Sid Gillman as a consultant, and Oldenburg's checkbook were powerful weapons. Unlike the Generals, who concentrated on signing NFL players, the Express gave priority to collegians. They signed 14 players rated in the top 100, including five probable first-round selections in the NFL: tackle Mark Adickes (Baylor), center Mike Ruether (Texas), guard Gary Zimmermann (Oregon), cornerback Alanda Smith (Vanderbilt), and Young. The Express also signed Young's teammate and friend from BYU, Gordon Hudson, who was considered the best tight end.

Donald Trump purchased the Generals and immediately began to assemble a better supporting cast for Walker (who led the USFL in rushing in 1983, with 1,812 yards) and a new coach. Trump released Chuck Fairbanks, tried to hire Don Shula, and settled on Walt Michaels. He signed Sipe to a four-year, \$3.2 million contract, and imported a defense from the NFL: Barbaro and linebackers Willie Harper and Bobby Leopold (San Francisco) and Jim LeClair (Cincinnati). The Generals sold 32,000 season tickets, averaged over 45,000 in attendance, and gave the USFL a red-letter day on April 29 by drawing 50,908 at Giants Stadium for a victory over the Panthers while the baseball Yankees drew 50,318 by giving away digital watches and the Mets drew 28,562 on (Darryl) Strawberry Sunday. The basketball Knicks and Nets were also on television the same day.

While most predicted Trump would spend the rest of the league out of business and himself into the NFL, he forecast a Galaxy Bowl pitting the USFL champion against the NFL's Super Bowl champion "within five years." Trump was one of the first to advocate switching to a fall schedule. He did not, however, explain where the USFL teams now leasing facil-

Gary Anderson



by BILL CONNORS TULSA WORLD

ties to which NFL teams have exclusive rights in the fall would play, or what would happen to teams such as Arizona and Oklahoma, which rent college stadiums.

Oldenburg was more private and less visible than Trump but vowed a willingness to outspend the New Jersey owner. Despite Oldenburg's generosity, the Express did not match the Generals' success on the field or at the gate. The importance the league gave to having a successful franchise in Los Angeles (ABC's contract with the USFL is predicated on having teams in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles) was apparently a factor in LA's signing of Young. Klosterman reportedly persuaded the other teams to lay off Young, because Young represented what the Express needed.

Young also gave the league something it did not want: his candid opinion of its future. Young, who admitted he hoped to play in the NFL, said in a published interview he expected the USFL's successful franchises to merge with the NFL and the remainder of the league to disappear. Commissioner Chet Simmons's office quickly released a statement pointing out Young's remarks were those of "an immature young man" and had no basis. Young apologized and said he should have kept his mouth shut. But he only said what others whispered in private. Bill Tatham Jr., the minority owner and president of the Outlaws, said he expected a merger after the NFL's television contract expires in 1987. "I think it's inevitable," Tatham said. "The strongest franchises will have a chance to go in the NFL."

One franchise that became much stronger in the second year was the Breakers, which was on the brink of disaster at Boston in 1983 and found a cozy home in New Orleans's Superdome. Owner Joseph Canizaro landed a potential box office star in Marcus Dupree, a fabled freshman at Oklahoma in 1982 but a two-time dropout (Oklahoma, Southern Mississippi) in 1983. When University of Arizona punter Bob Boris won a court case challenging the USFL's rule forbidding the signing of players with collegiate eligibility, Canizaro seized the chance to sign Dupree. But unlike Young, who was guaranteed everything in his contract if the Express or USFL folds or if he defects after four years, Dupree was guaranteed only



John Corker / Brian Sipe

a \$1.1 signing bonus. The rest of his five-year, \$6 million contract was based on Dupree's making the team. He could be cut, said Canizaro, mindful of Dupree's injury-prone history and unenthusiastic practice habits. Dupree demonstrated flashes of extraordinary ability but injuries slowed him and unheralded Buford Jordan of McNeese State was the Breakers' leading rusher.

Some owners, such as Ron Blanding of Denver and Walter Duncan, who sold the Generals to Trump, cooled on the league when they saw its founding guidelines go unheeded. The original plan was to compete with the NFL for no more

than two top draft choices per year and hold salaries to \$1.7 million in 1983 and \$2.3 million in 1984. Some charged George Allen paid no attention to agreements on restraint when he assembled the first-year Blitz, and thus set the tone for what became a radical change in philosophy. Washington owner Berl Bernhard and Dr. James Hoffman, the owner of the Blitz, said they could not afford to compete with Trump and Oldenburg. Before the Federals changed hands, they let their highest-paid player, running back Craig James, defect to the NFL's New England Patriots in order to be free of his big salary. With a new television contract expected to yield only \$900,000 per team (compared with the NFL's \$14 million per), Hoffman and Bernhard were happy to escape. However, richer men were willing to buy their teams.

Even men who had been burned in previous football experiences were not reluctant to invest in the USFL, seemingly with minimal homework. William Tatham Sr. was an owner—as was Tampa's John Bassett—of Portland in the World Football League that folded after one year. But Tatham paid \$6 million for an expansion franchise in the USFL, confident he could locate it in San Diego. When he was denied use of the stadium in San Diego, Tatham placed the franchise in Tulsa, a city with less than 400,000 population, a 40,000-seat stadium without ample parking, and a history of not supporting professional sports. Tatham put his son, Bill Jr., in charge of the team and named Gillman as general manager. Gillman was fired in four months, accused of overspending by five-fold his budget for conducting tryout camps. After the second game, the Tathams announced poor attendance, an inadequate stadium, and acute parking problems caused their losses to exceed expectations and they would be compelled to move the team unless a new facility were built. To the surprise of the Tathams and civic leaders in Tulsa, a group of investors from Denver announced they were paying \$100,000 to conduct a feasibility study on building a \$100 million domed stadium, with 65,000 seats, to keep the Outlaws in Tulsa. The money was committed, they claimed.

Obviously, the league has possibilities for persevering or merging, in the eyes of some. If the USFL lives to its third birthday and beyond, more than the stadiums will have to change. In fact, the Outlaws and Gunslingers are the only teams that played in facilities this year below the 50,000-seat minimum the USFL said would be a requirement for all teams by its third year.

If the league continues to play an 18-game schedule—the owners cannot afford to shorten it—the coaches think the 40-man squad limit must be expanded. By midseason most teams had so many injuries they were desperately in search of bodies, just to put a lineup on the field. The shortages were more obvious on defense. The league emphasized offense in its pursuit of quality players, so the defenses that began with shortcomings leaked embarrassingly when weakened by injuries. Some coaches were prepared to appeal to owners to increase squads to 45 players in 1985. Whatever, there is expected to be more emphasis on drafting and signing defensive players next year.

Oklahoma personnel director Bruce Kebic, whose philosophy was shaped from working for Al Davis when the Raiders were in Oakland, said, "Most of the players in the USFL who could play in the NFL are on offense. I think the best teams went for a 'name' back to sell tickets the first year. The second year they went for quarterbacks and offensive linemen. Next year, I think you will see them going for defense."

How many next years will there be for the USFL?

"I don't know," Lombardi said. "Before I took the Michigan job, I did not think the USFL would make it. But after meeting with these owners, I thought if anybody could make it go, these men could. They are dedicated. But I guess the jury will be out on the league for a while."



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HALL OF FAME

The pro football Hall of Fame elected four new members in 1984: Willie Brown, Charley Taylor, Mike McCormack, and Arnie Weinmeister. Brown was elected in his first year of eligibility, following the mandatory five-year waiting period after his retirement in 1978. The 6-1, 210-pound cornerback, who played his collegiate ball at Grambling, was signed as a free agent by the Houston Oilers of the American Football League in 1963. Cut during training camp that summer, Brown then joined the Denver Broncos, for whom he became a starter in his rookie season. A year later he won the first of his seven all-league honors and was chosen the most valuable player in the AFL all-star contest. He was traded in 1967 to Oakland, where he helped lead the Raiders to three AFL championship games, six AFC West titles, and two Super Bowls. A superb one-on-one defender during his 16-year career, Brown intercepted 54 passes, perhaps none more memorable than the one he returned a record 75 yards for a touchdown in Super Bowl XI in 1977. A member of the AFL's all-time team, Brown is currently the Raiders' secondary coach.

Taylor, a first-round draft choice from Arizona State in 1964, began his pro career with the Washington Redskins as

a running back. He became the first rookie in 20 years to finish in the top ten in the National Football League in rushing (755 yards) and receiving (53 catches—a record at the time for his position—for 805 yards). Taylor, 6-3 and 210 pounds, was made a full-time end in 1966 and promptly led the league with 72 receptions. He caught at least 50 passes a record-tying seven times and retired after 13 seasons as the NFL's all-time leading receiver, with 649 catches for 9,140 yards and 79 touchdowns. He also rushed for 1,488 yards and 11 TDs and returned kicks for an additional 255 yards. Taylor is now the coach of the Redskins' receivers.

McCormack, an offensive tackle who performed for ten years in the NFL, was a first-round draft pick of the New York Yankees in 1951. An immediate success, he appeared in the Pro Bowl following the conclusion of his rookie season and then spent the next two years in military service. He was traded to Cleveland, where he was a two-way player his first season, and established himself as a fixture on the Browns' line, competing in five more Pro Bowls and three NFL title games. McCormack, a member of the all-time Kansas University team, has been an assistant coach with the Redskins (1966-72) and the Cincinnati Bengals (1976-79) and the head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles (1973-75) and the Baltimore Colts (1980-81). He is currently the president and general manager of the Seattle Seahawks, for whom he served as interim field boss for the final seven games of the 1982 campaign.

Weinmeister, a 6-4, 235-pound defensive tackle from the University of Washington, had one of the shortest careers of any Hall of Fame member. He began his pro tenure in 1948 with the New York Yankees of the All-America Football Conference, then moved to the New York Giants of the National Football League in 1950 after the AAFC-NFL war ended. A Pro Bowl selection in each of his four years with the Giants, Weinmeister chose to play in the Canadian Football League after the 1953 season.

continued

Cornerback Willie Brown (left) of the Raiders and receiver Charley Taylor (right) of the Redskins, with Mike McCormack and Arnie Weinmeister, comprise the 1984 class of the pro football Hall of Fame.

Los Angeles Raiders



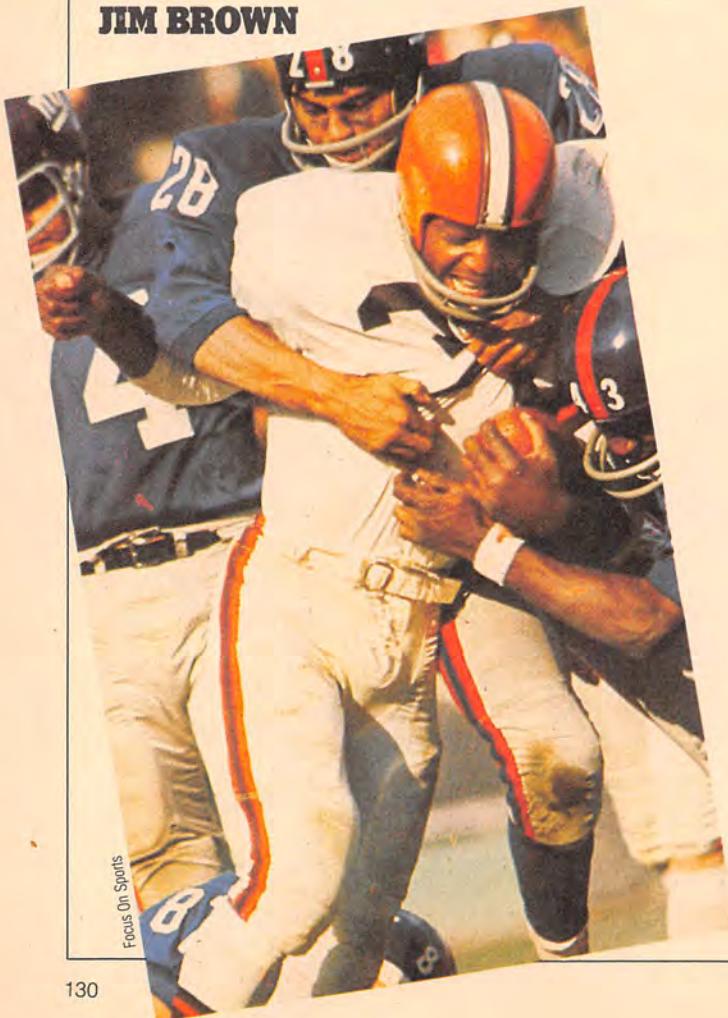
Jim Brown ran for a record 12,312 yards in his nine seasons with the Cleveland Browns. The mark has stood for 18 years, yet it could be broken by two players in 1984.

Franco Harris gained 1,007 yards last year, his twelfth with the Pittsburgh Steelers, and passed O.J. Simpson (11,236) for second place in the rankings. With 11,950 yards, Harris needs just 363 to overtake Brown. Walter Payton of the Chicago Bears rushed for 1,421 yards in 1983 to raise his nine-year total to 11,625, or 687 yards behind the leader. Brown, of course, achieved his yardage total on 2,359 carries in his career. He averaged 5.2 yards per rush and scored 106 touchdowns. Harris and Payton have already carried the ball more often than Brown did, Harris with 2,881 rushes (4.1-yard average) and 91 TDs and Payton with 2,666 attempts (4.4-yard average) and 78 scores.

John Riggins of the National Conference champion Washington Redskins established an NFL standard in 1983 with 24 touchdowns on the ground. He gained 1,347 yards in his twelfth pro campaign to advance one place, to sixth, ahead of Jim Taylor in the rankings. Riggins needs 564 yards to become the fifth player in history to rush for 10,000 yards.

Tony Dorsett of the Dallas Cowboys and Earl Campbell of the Houston Oilers each advanced two places in the rankings. Dorsett, with 1,321 yards last season, raised his seven-year rushing total to 8,336, good for the No. 8 position.

JIM BROWN



Focus On Sports

HALL OF FAME

continued

Campbell, with 1,301 yards in his sixth season, is in ninth place, with 8,296 yards.

The New England Patriots' Mark van Eeghen gained 358 yards in 1983 and moved into a tie for the thirteenth spot with the San Diego Chargers' Chuck Muncie. Each has run for 6,651 yards, van Eeghen in ten years and Muncie in eight. And Ottis Anderson picked up 1,270 rushing yards last year, giving him a total of 6,190 for his five seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals. He is in nineteenth place.

LEADING RUSHERS

| rank | player | hrs | att. | yds. | avg. | td |
|------|---------------------|-----|------|--------|------|-----|
| 1 | Jim Brown | 9 | 2359 | 12,312 | 5.2 | 106 |
| 2 | FRANCO HARRIS | 12 | 2881 | 11,950 | 4.1 | 91 |
| 3 | WALTER PAYTON | 9 | 2666 | 11,625 | 4.4 | 78 |
| 4 | O.J. Simpson | 11 | 2404 | 11,236 | 4.7 | 61 |
| 5 | Joe Perry | 16 | 1929 | 9723 | 5.0 | 71 |
| 6 | JOHN RIGGINS | 12 | 2413 | 9436 | 3.9 | 82 |
| 7 | Jim Taylor | 10 | 1941 | 8597 | 4.4 | 83 |
| 8 | TONY DORSETT | 7 | 1834 | 8336 | 4.5 | 53 |
| 9 | EARL CAMPBELL | 6 | 1883 | 8296 | 4.4 | 69 |
| 10 | Larry Csonka | 11 | 1891 | 8081 | 4.3 | 64 |
| 11 | Leroy Kelly | 10 | 1727 | 7274 | 4.2 | 74 |
| 12 | John Henry Johnson | 13 | 1571 | 6803 | 4.3 | 48 |
| 13T | CHUCK MUNCIE | 8 | 1547 | 6651 | 4.3 | 71 |
| 13T | MARK VAN EEGHEN | 10 | 1652 | 6651 | 4.0 | 37 |
| 15 | Lawrence McCutcheon | 10 | 1521 | 6578 | 4.3 | 26 |
| 16 | Lydell Mitchell | 9 | 1675 | 6534 | 3.9 | 30 |
| 17 | Floyd Little | 9 | 1641 | 6323 | 3.8 | 43 |
| 18 | Don Perkins | 8 | 1500 | 6217 | 4.1 | 42 |
| 19 | OTTIS ANDERSON | 5 | 1401 | 6190 | 4.4 | 34 |
| 20 | Ken Willard | 10 | 1622 | 6105 | 3.8 | 45 |

Active players in 1983 in CAPS. Pro football Hall of Fame members in italics.

Brown is not the only Hall of Famer who could have a shattered record in 1984. Charley Taylor, as noted, a member of the Hall's 1984 class and pro football's all-time leading receiver, caught 649 passes in his 13-year NFL tenure with the Washington Redskins. He has held the top spot on the receiving chart since 1975, but he could forfeit that perch to the San Diego Chargers' Charlie Joiner this season.

Joiner had 65 receptions a year ago and advanced five places, to fourth, ahead of Lance Alworth, Lionel Taylor, Harold Jackson, Fred Biletnikoff, and Harold Carmichael. With 596 catches in 15 seasons, Joiner must first pass Raymond Berry (631) and Don Maynard (633) on his way to the No. 1 position in 1984.

Carmichael added 38 grabs last season, his thirteenth with the Philadelphia Eagles. That raised his total to 589 receptions, good for a fifth-place tie with Biletnikoff. Jackson caught eight passes last season, his sixteenth, for the Seattle Seahawks. But he dropped two places, to seventh, in the standings, with 579.

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Three active players cracked the top 20 receiving ranks a year ago. The Dallas Cowboys' Drew Pearson had 47 catches in 1983 and jumped to fourteenth place. With 489 receptions in 11 years, Pearson needs six catches to pass Ahmad Rashad and Tommy McDonald for twelfth place. If he can duplicate his 1983 production this season, Pearson will become the game's tenth-leading receiver. Cliff Branch caught 39 passes for the Los Angeles Raiders in their championship season. That effort raised his 11-year total to 474 receptions, which put him in an eighteenth-place tie with Boyd Dowler. Steve Largent, with 72 catches in his eighth term with the Seahawks, displaced Pete Retzlaff for the No. 20 position. Largent has 471 receptions.

LEADING RECEIVERS

| rank | player | yrs | att. | yds. | avg. | td |
|------|-------------------|-----|------|--------|------|----|
| 1 | Charley Taylor | 13 | 649 | 9110 | 14.0 | 79 |
| 2 | Don Maynard | 15 | 633 | 11,834 | 18.7 | 88 |
| 3 | Raymond Berry | 13 | 631 | 9275 | 14.7 | 68 |
| 4 | CHARLIE JOINER | 15 | 596 | 9981 | 16.7 | 50 |
| 5T | HAROLD CARMICHAEL | 13 | 589 | 8978 | 15.2 | 79 |
| 5T | Fred Biletnikoff | 14 | 589 | 8974 | 15.2 | 76 |
| 7 | HAROLD JACKSON | 16 | 579 | 10,372 | 17.9 | 76 |
| 8 | Lionel Taylor | 10 | 567 | 7195 | 12.7 | 45 |
| 9 | Lance Alworth | 11 | 542 | 10,266 | 18.9 | 85 |
| 10 | Bobby Mitchell | 11 | 521 | 7954 | 15.3 | 65 |
| 11 | Billy Howton | 12 | 503 | 8459 | 16.8 | 61 |
| 12T | Tommy McDonald | 12 | 495 | 8410 | 17.0 | 84 |
| 12T | Ahmad Rashad | 10 | 495 | 6831 | 13.8 | 44 |
| 14 | DREW PEARSON | 11 | 489 | 7822 | 16.0 | 48 |
| 15 | Don Hutson | 11 | 488 | 7991 | 16.4 | 99 |
| 16 | Jackie Smith | 16 | 480 | 7918 | 16.5 | 40 |
| 17 | Art Powell | 10 | 479 | 8046 | 16.8 | 81 |
| 18T | CLIFF BRANCH | 11 | 474 | 8084 | 17.1 | 67 |
| 18T | Boyd Dowler | 12 | 474 | 7270 | 15.4 | 40 |
| 20 | STEVE LARGENT | 8 | 471 | 7608 | 16.2 | 60 |

HALL OF FAME

continued

W

hile Franco Harris and Walter Payton rush inexorably toward Jim Brown's record and Charlie Joiner hopes to catch Charley Taylor in 1984, Joe Montana quietly passed Otto Graham as pro football's top-rated quarterback—with a minimum of 1,500 pass attempts—last season.

Montana has a rating of 89.9 after just five years with the San Francisco 49ers, during which time he has completed 64 percent of his passes for 11,979 yards and 78 touchdowns. He led his team to a 26-21 Super Bowl victory over the Cincinnati Bengals in 1982. Graham's 86.6 mark previously had been unsurpassed since the Hall of Fame adopted its current rating system—which recognizes statistics from the All-America Football Conference—in 1973. Graham completed 56 percent of his passes for 23,584 yards and 174 TDs, leading the Cleveland Browns to divisional or league championships in each of his ten seasons.

The Dallas Cowboys' Danny White, who became eligible for the top 20 chart last year, is rated the third-most efficient quarterback in pro football history. His 84.2 mark is less than one point better than former Cowboy Roger Staubach's 83.5 score. The other active passers with high rankings are Cincinnati's Ken Anderson (82.1), San Diego's Dan Fouts (81.1), Washington's Joe Theismann (77.4), New Orleans' Ken Stabler (76.2), and Brian Sipe (75.0) of the New Jersey Generals in the United States Football League.

LEADING PASSERS

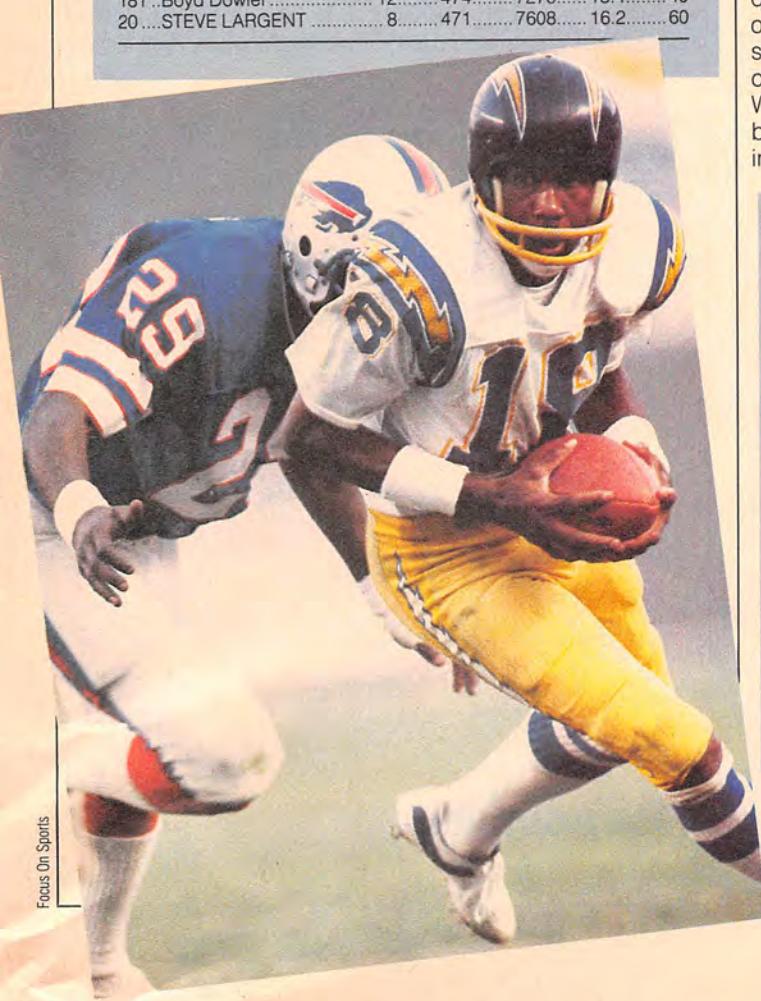
MINIMUM 1500 ATTEMPTS

| rank | player | yrs | att. | comp. | yds | td. | int. | pts. | rating |
|------|-------------------|-----|------|-------|--------|-----|------|------|--------|
| 1 | JOE MONTANA | 5 | 1645 | 1045 | 11,979 | 78 | 44 | 89.8 | |
| 2 | Otto Graham | 10 | 2626 | 1464 | 23,584 | 174 | 135 | 86.8 | |
| 3 | DANNY WHITE | 8 | 1710 | 1029 | 13,174 | 98 | 79 | 84.2 | |
| 4 | Roger Staubach | 11 | 2958 | 1685 | 22,700 | 153 | 109 | 83.5 | |
| 5 | Sonny Jurgensen | 18 | 4262 | 2433 | 32,224 | 255 | 189 | 82.8 | |
| 6 | Len Dawson | 19 | 3741 | 2136 | 28,711 | 239 | 183 | 82.6 | |
| 7 | KEN ANDERSON | 13 | 4145 | 2452 | 30,386 | 184 | 146 | 82.1 | |
| 8 | DAN FOUTS | 11 | 3873 | 2268 | 30,114 | 182 | 168 | 81.1 | |
| 9 | Fran Tarkenton | 18 | 6467 | 3686 | 47,003 | 342 | 266 | 80.5 | |
| 10 | Bart Starr | 16 | 3149 | 1808 | 24,718 | 152 | 138 | 80.3 | |
| 11T | Johnny Unitas | 18 | 5188 | 2830 | 40,239 | 290 | 253 | 78.2 | |
| 11T | Bert Jones | 10 | 2551 | 1430 | 18,190 | 124 | 101 | 78.2 | |
| 13 | Frank Ryan | 13 | 2133 | 1090 | 16,042 | 149 | 111 | 77.7 | |
| 14 | Joe Theismann | 10 | 2824 | 1594 | 20,041 | 128 | 109 | 77.4 | |
| 15 | Bob Griese | 14 | 3429 | 1926 | 25,092 | 192 | 172 | 77.3 | |
| 16 | KEN STABLER | 14 | 3723 | 2237 | 27,599 | 192 | 217 | 76.2 | |
| 17 | Norm Van Brocklin | 12 | 2895 | 1553 | 23,611 | 173 | 178 | 75.3 | |
| 18T | Sid Luckman | 12 | 1744 | 904 | 14,686 | 137 | 132 | 75.0 | |
| 18T | BRIAN SIBE | 10 | 3439 | 1944 | 23,713 | 154 | 149 | 75.0 | |
| 20 | Don Meredith | 9 | 2308 | 1170 | 17,199 | 134 | 111 | 74.7 | |

Active players in 1983 in CAPS. Pro football Hall of Fame members in italics.

continued

CHARLIE JOINER



PASSES ATTEMPTED

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|------|
| 1. Fran Tarkenton..... | 6467 | 1. Fran Tarkenton..... | 3686 |
| 2. <i>Johnny Unitas</i> | 5186 | 2. <i>Johnny Unitas</i> | 2830 |
| 3. JIM HART..... | 5069 | 3. JIM HART..... | 2590 |
| 4. John Hadl..... | 4687 | 4. John Brodie..... | 2469 |
| 5. Roman Gabriel..... | 4498 | 5. KEN ANDERSON..... | 2452 |
| 6. John Brodie..... | 4491 | 6. Sonny Jurgensen..... | 2433 |
| 7. Y.A. Tittle..... | 4395 | 7. Y.A. Tittle..... | 2427 |
| 8. Norm Snead..... | 4353 | 8. Roman Gabriel..... | 2366 |
| 9. Sonny Jurgensen..... | 4262 | 9. John Hadl..... | 2363 |
| 10. KEN ANDERSON..... | 4145 | 10. Norm Snead..... | 2276 |
| 11. George Blanda..... | 4007 | 11. DAN FOUTS..... | 2268 |
| 12. TERRY BRADSHAW..... | 3901 | 12. KEN STABLER..... | 2237 |
| 13. DAN FOUTS..... | 3873 | 13. Len Dawson..... | 2136 |
| 14. JOE FERGUSON..... | 3822 | 14. Craig Morton..... | 2053 |
| 15. Craig Morton..... | 3786 | 15. TERRY BRADSHAW..... | 2025 |
| 16. Joe Namath..... | 3762 | 16. JOE FERGUSON..... | 1997 |
| 17. Len Dawson..... | 3741 | 17. ARCHIE MANNING..... | 1959 |
| 18. KEN STABLER..... | 3723 | 18. BRIAN SIPE..... | 1944 |
| 19. Bobby Layne..... | 3700 | 19. Bob Griese..... | 1926 |
| 20. ARCHIE MANNING..... | 3548 | 20. George Blanda..... | 1911 |

TOUCHDOWN PASSES

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Fran Tarkenton..... | 342 | 1. Fran Tarkenton..... | 47,003 |
| 2. <i>Johnny Unitas</i> | 290 | 2. <i>Johnny Unitas</i> | 40,239 |
| 3. Sonny Jurgensen..... | 255 | 3. JIM HART..... | 34,639 |
| 4. John Hadl..... | 244 | 4. John Hadl..... | 33,513 |
| 5. Y.A. Tittle..... | 242 | 5. Y.A. Tittle..... | 33,070 |
| 6. Len Dawson..... | 239 | 6. Sonny Jurgensen..... | 32,224 |
| 7. George Blanda..... | 236 | 7. John Brodie..... | 31,548 |
| 8. John Brodie..... | 214 | 8. Norm Snead..... | 30,797 |
| 9. TERRY BRADSHAW..... | 212 | 9. KEN ANDERSON..... | 30,386 |
| 10. JIM HART..... | 209 | 10. DAN FOUTS..... | 30,114 |
| 11. Roman Gabriel..... | 201 | 11. Roman Gabriel..... | 29,444 |
| 12T Norm Snead..... | 196 | 12. Len Dawson..... | 28,711 |
| 12T Bobby Layne..... | 196 | 13. TERRY BRADSHAW..... | 27,989 |
| 14T Bob Griese..... | 192 | 14. Craig Morton..... | 27,908 |
| 14T KEN STABLER..... | 192 | 15. Joe Namath..... | 27,663 |
| 16. Sammy Baugh..... | 186 | 16. KEN STABLER..... | 27,599 |
| 17. KEN ANDERSON..... | 184 | 17. George Blanda..... | 26,920 |
| 18. Craig Morton..... | 183 | 18. Bobby Layne..... | 26,768 |
| 19. DAN FOUTS..... | 182 | 19. JOE FERGUSON..... | 25,599 |
| 20. Babe Parilli..... | 176 | 20. Bob Griese..... | 25,092 |

PASSES COMPLETED

HALL OF FAME

continued



The top 20 scoring table saw little change during the 1983 season. Only two players among pro football's all-time leading point-makers were active last year: Jan Stenerud of the Green Bay Packers and Mark Moseley of the Washington Redskins.

Stenerud, in his seventeenth year in the National Football League, scored 115 points on 21 field goals and 52 PATs and moved ahead of Jim Turner and into third place in the rankings. With 1,523 points, Stenerud trails only Lou Groza (1,608), who played for 21 years in the All-America Football Conference and the NFL, and George Blanda (2,002), whose pro career spanned 26 seasons.

Moseley added 161 points in his thirteenth season on 33 field goals and 62 PATs. That advanced him five places, to eighth, past Lou Michaels, Sam Baker, Bruce Gossett, Garo Yepremian, and Don Cockroft. Moseley has scored 1,104 points.

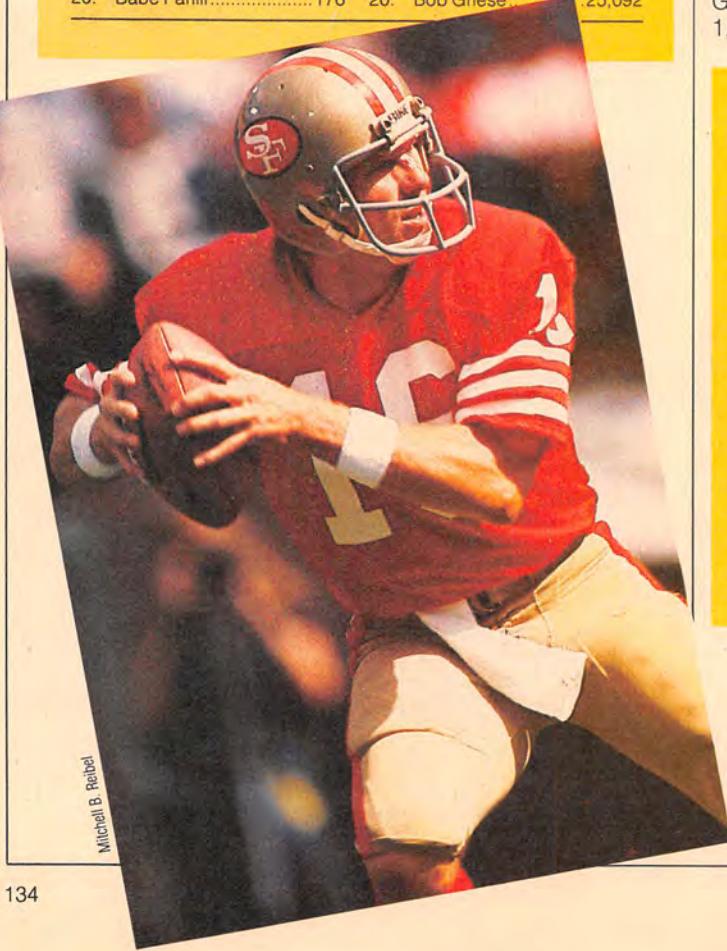
LEADING SCORERS

| rank | player | yrs | td. | pat. | fg. | points |
|------|-------------------------------|-----|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| 1. | <i>George Blanda</i> | 26 | 9..... | 943..... | 335..... | 2002 |
| 2. | <i>Lou Groza</i> | 21 | 1..... | 810..... | 264..... | 1608 |
| 3. | <i>JAN STENERUD</i> | 17 | 0..... | 509..... | 338..... | 1523 |
| 4. | <i>Jim Turner</i> | 16 | 1..... | 521..... | 304..... | 1439 |
| 5. | <i>Jim Bakken</i> | 17 | 0..... | 534..... | 282..... | 1380 |
| 6. | <i>Fred Cox</i> | 15 | 0..... | 519..... | 282..... | 1365 |
| 7. | <i>Gino Cappelletti</i> | 11 | 42..... | 350..... | 176..... | 1130 |
| 8. | <i>MARK MOSELEY</i> | 13 | 0..... | 378..... | 242..... | 1104 |
| 9. | <i>Don Cockroft</i> | 13 | 0..... | 432..... | 216..... | 1080 |
| 10. | <i>Garo Yepremian</i> | 14 | 0..... | 444..... | 210..... | 1074 |
| 11. | <i>Bruce Gossett</i> | 11 | 0..... | 374..... | 219..... | 1031 |
| 12. | <i>Sam Baker</i> | 15 | 2..... | 428..... | 179..... | 977 |
| 13. | <i>Lou Michaels</i> | 13 | 1..... | 386..... | 187..... | 955 |
| 14. | <i>Roy Gerela</i> | 11 | 0..... | 351..... | 184..... | 903 |
| 15. | <i>Bobby Walston</i> | 12 | 46..... | 365..... | 80..... | 881 |
| 16. | <i>Pete Gogolak</i> | 10 | 0..... | 344..... | 173..... | 863 |
| 17. | <i>Errol Mann</i> | 11 | 0..... | 315..... | 177..... | 846 |
| 18. | <i>Don Hutson</i> | 11 | 105..... | 172..... | 7..... | 823 |
| 19. | <i>Paul Hornung</i> | 9 | 62..... | 190..... | 66..... | 760 |
| 20. | <i>Tony Fritsch</i> | 11 | 0..... | 287..... | 157..... | 758 |

Active players in 1983 in CAPS. Pro football Hall of Fame members in italics.

JOE MONTANA

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CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Jake Gaudaur looks back on his 16-year reign as commissioner while his successor, Douglas Mitchell, looks ahead to the further success and improvement of the CFL.

by RICK

MATSUMOTO

TORONTO STAR

It took a trip to Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, for the Winter Olympics, to convince Doug Mitchell to take on the headaches of the commissioner of the Canadian Football League. A wealthy lawyer with a lucrative practice in Calgary, the 45-year-old Mitchell, frankly, did not need the aggravation that would go with the job of succeeding the retiring Jake Gaudaur.

When he was first approached, last December, to become a candidate for the position, he was "very cool" to the idea. "I would say that on a scale of one to ten, my interest at that stage was a one," he said. At the league's annual meeting in Toronto in mid-February, he was one of three candidates on a list presented to the board of governors, who would make the ultimate selection. The governors came away from that meeting without making their choice, simply because they could not interview one of the three men. Mitchell, a key member of the Calgary Olympic Organizing Committee which had acquired the 1988 Winter Games for that city, was in Sarajevo attending the '84 Games. And it was while he was in Yugoslavia that Mitchell decided he'd take the commissioner's job if it was still offered to him. What swayed him was the passion for their countries displayed in particular by the Yugoslavians and the Americans.

"Those people," he said, speaking of the Olympic hosts, "taught me something important, something that has been on my mind ever since. Basically, they've got nothing—compared with Canadians, anyway. But they love their country. And because of that passionate love, they're prepared to do things for their country. It's wonderful to see. I envied it."

Mitchell then turned to the Americans. "You know, one of the things I admire about Americans is their enthusiasm for what they've got. I think we could use some of that in Canada." He feels that an enthusiasm for Canada can be expressed through football, particularly through the uniqueness of the Canadian game. And through the office of commissioner, he sees a chance to contribute to that sense of pride. "I believe very deeply in Canada, and I see this as an opportunity to do something meaningful for my country."

A love of country is something that Mitchell, a fringe player with the British Columbia Lions

and the Hamilton Tiger-Cats for a brief period in the early 1960s, shares with Gaudaur, who departs after 16 years on the job. During Gaudaur's reign the CFL survived an attempted encroachment into Canada by the now defunct World Football League and constant suggestions from its detractors that the nine-team league would (or should) wither and die under the unrelenting television pressure of the National Football League. That it has not only survived, but grown, under those circumstances is deeply satisfying to Gaudaur.

"The great thing to me has been to be in this game when it has really come out of the cradle," he said. "It's grown from an operation with fewer than 100,000 people coming to the games to the point where there's close to 3,000,000 attending them now. And we attract an additional television audience of over 100,000,000 during the season. It's also nice to see us having reached a point where we're on the largest cable system in the United States [ESPN]. We're in 29,300,000 homes at the present time."

Gaudaur, who has had a 44-year association with the league as a player, general manager, club president, and, since 1968, commissioner, has seen it grow from two separate football unions into an amalgamated league. It wasn't until 1961, seven years before Gaudaur was finally "talked into" the commissioner's chair, that the Canadian Football League was officially formed, bringing together the Western Interprovincial Football Union and the Interprovincial Rugby Football Union (the Big Four). It was that year that a partial interlocking schedule between what has now become the Western and Eastern Conferences was introduced. With Gaudaur's appointment in 1968 the CFL adopted a new

constitution, and in 1975 the four-team Eastern Conference increased its schedule from 14 to 16 games to bring it in line with the five-team Western Conference. It wasn't until 1981 that the conferences were dissolved and a fully interlocking schedule between eastern and western division clubs got under way. Today each club plays a home-and-away series with the other eight teams.

In 1980, Gaudaur negotiated a three-year \$15.6 million television contract for the CFL. But last year he hammered out a new pact worth \$33 million through 1986 that may well go down in CFL annals as one of his major accomplishments.

All has not been positive for the league, however, during the Gaudaur years. The major crisis was the demise of the Montreal Alouettes under the short but disastrous ownership of Nelson Skalbania. While the situation appears to be improving in Montreal as the Alouettes' successors, the Concordes, struggle for respectability, a more serious ailment appears to be gnawing away at the financial foundations of the nine clubs. Caught in the general economic recession, the clubs have been hit with declining attendance figures. Only the B.C. Lions, thanks to their new domed stadium, and the always successful Saskatchewan Roughriders showed a profit last season. Improving the league's performance at the gate is the main project which Mitchell has set for himself.

"I'll be intensely involved in the marketing of the CFL so we can start filling those empty seats," he promised. "It's fine to say we have a good television contract. However, we want people in the stadiums, not just watching on television." No matter what ideas he introduces, Mitchell vows to keep the CFL Canadian. "I think it's a proud part of the Canadian heritage," he said.

That will keep a smile of satisfaction on Gaudaur's face. "I'd like to see the league continue in the same general direction," Gaudaur said. "I hear from time to time it is not a Canadian league because we let American players and coaches into it. But it's a game that originated in Canada and has been played under a distinctive set of Canadian rules for 100 years. And the league's constitution requires that all of its teams be located geographically in Canada."

"Sometime, down the road, we might be faced with the decision of whether to stay alive as a Canadian league and sink into the sea waving a Canadian flag, or to try to preserve it [the league] in some form. I'm glad we never came to that crossroad during my time as commissioner. I think that's an academic question anyway, because the day we allow an American city into the CFL will be the day before the day the NFL considers itself absolutely free to grant a franchise to a Canadian city. And then we'd sink into the sea waving a Canadian and an American flag."



Douglas Mitchell



Wide receiver Terry Greer of the champion Toronto Argonauts

eastern division

TORONTO ARGONAUTS

(12-4) It was one of the longer championship droughts in all of professional sports. It ranked right up there with the New York Rangers' failure to win the Stanley Cup and the Chicago Cubs' inability to capture the National League pennant. So when the Argonauts beat the B.C. Lions, 18-17, last November 27 in Vancouver's brand-new domed playpen, it ended 31 years of frustration for Toronto. The football fans, some of whom were not even a twinkle in dad's eye as he watched the 1952 Argos win what was Toronto's last trophy, celebrated the return of the Grey Cup.

Now all that joy is but a faded memory in the spring of another football season. It is rapidly being replaced by the sober realization that in the CFL, with its limited rosters and import-player restrictions, last year's champs can easily turn into this year's chumps. Argo head coach Bob O'Billovich acknowledged that the team faces a tough challenge in attempting to repeat, not only as Grey Cup champions but as Eastern Division winners.

"Just looking at it on paper, I'd have to say that the three other teams in the East will be a lot stronger this season," he said. "Ottawa will have (quarterback) J.C. Watts from day one. Montreal has signed a couple of good young quarterbacks in Turner Gill and Steve Smith. And Hamilton has a strong nucleus built around Dieter Brock." The Argos also lost three players to free agency: running back Cedric Minter, defensive end Rick Mohr, and cornerback Marcellus Greene.

"The toughest guy to replace will be Minter," said O'Billovich, "especially because of all that is involved with that position in our system." Minter, the former Boise State record setter, recently signed with the NFL New York Jets after three solid seasons with Toronto. But in the Argo scheme he was much more

than a ball carrier. He was often called upon to be the fifth receiver, and in the highly sophisticated "run-and-shoot" offense his task involved reading defenses on the move.

The main candidates to replace Minter are Darrell Smith (Illinois), who had previous CFL experience with Calgary and Winnipeg; Paris Wicks (Youngstown State), who joined the Argos midway through last season on a 21-day trial; and rookie Stirling Hinds (Washington). Hinds, a Canadian, who would give the Argos the enormous luxury of utilizing a homebrew in a position usually reserved for imports. But as training camp approached he was still unsigned as he contemplated running for Canada in the Olympics.

The Argos' main offensive threat will continue to be the passing game led by the brilliant wide receiver Terry Greer (Alabama State), whose 2,003 yards on 113 catches shattered all records. Greer, the runner-up to Edmonton quarterback Warren Moon in the balloting for the Schenley Award as the league's outstanding player, should be a shoo-in for that honor if he comes even close to duplicating last year's performance. He got a lot of extra attention in the latter stages of the 1983 season and can expect double and even triple coverage again this year.

The problem for opposing defenses is that too much concentration on Greer often allows one of the other receivers to get open. Emanuel Tolbert (Southern Methodist) caught 70 passes for 1,225 yards. He could be even more productive this year. Another rising threat is Canadian Geoff Townsend (Boston College), who stepped into the second wide-receiver job midway through last season and should now have the confidence to go along with his outstanding speed. Tolbert's partner at slot back will be veteran homebrew Paul Pearson, who may not have the speed of the others but who makes up for it with moxie and good hands.

The Argos had the best starter-reliever quarterbacking combo in the league last year in Condredge Holloway (Tennessee) and Joe Barnes (Texas Tech). It was Barnes who came off the bench in the Grey Cup game to pull out the victory. At age 32, Barnes is seeking one final contract (a big one), and that could cause him to play out his option if he can't reach an accord with management. Ready to step in is Joe Adams (Tennessee State), who came to the Argos from Saskatchewan in the middle of last year.

Mohr signed with the Argos after being released by the Oakland Invaders, but was immediately traded to Saskatchewan for all-Canadian defensive end Vince Goldsmith, Matthew Teague (Prairie View), James Curry (UNLV), Chris Nyte (Portland State), Jeff Caves (Boise State), and Canadian Tony Lawson compete for the other end job.

Darrell Nicholson (North Carolina State), last year's prize rookie catch, and veteran William Mitchell (Long Beach State) return at linebacker, with Canadian Don Moen.

The Argos lost Greene (Arizona) to the Los Angeles Rams but have a ready replacement in Don Rose (Hampton Institute), who returns after an abbreviated stay with Winnipeg, or Lamont Meacham (Western Kentucky), who was on the reserve list most of last season.

Punter-kicker Hank Ilesic has abandoned, at least for now, plans to take his powerful right leg to the NFL (Dallas Cowboys?). That's good news for the Argos. His punting, particularly his uncanny ability to place the ball out of bounds, was a major factor in the Argos' Grey Cup triumph. And after a somewhat inconsistent first year as a place-kicker, he should be stronger this season.

OTTAWA ROUGH RIDERS

(8-8) The way head coach George Brancato looked at it, the Ottawa Rough Riders were way ahead of last year before the first roll of tape was applied to an ankle at training camp. That's because quarterback J.C. Watts was on hand from the opening day of camp for the first time in his Rough Rider career that goes back to 1981.

Watts, the former Oklahoma Sooner star, signed with Ottawa in 1981, arrived late for training camp, and then departed a few days later. He finally rejoined the team early in the regular season, but was relegated to backup status. It wasn't until the playoffs that his talents and potential surfaced as the upstart Riders almost knocked off the Edmonton Eskimos in the Grey Cup game. That late-season success caused Watts to seek a considerable pay hike in a renegotiated contract the next spring. But when Jake Dunlap, then the Riders' GM, refused, Watts ended up sitting out the '82 season. Last year, with Brancato taking over Dunlap's duties, an agreement with Watts was finally struck, but by then the quick-footed pivot had again missed camp. But now it appears that J.C. is finally ready to step into the long-awaited role of savior of the Riders. In completing 175 of 358 passes for 3,089 yards, Watts had the lowest pass-completion percentage (48.9) of the league's starting quarterbacks. His 20 interceptions also were tops among the league's starters. Backing up Watts are Prince McJunkins (Wichita State), who showed flashes of ability last year, and Chris Isaac (Eastern Kentucky), the East's top rookie in 1982.

Brancato hopes to help Watts improve this season with a better pass-receiving corps. Mariet Ford (California) and veteran Tyron Gray (Washington State) are the returning import wide receivers. They will be pushed by Canadians Bruce Walker, who missed the entire '83 season because of a knee injury; Michael Collymore, and Dwight Edwards, obtained in the offseason from Saskatchewan; along with rookie Reuben Eckels (Wichita State). The slot backs are import Dave Newmann (Missouri) and homebrew Pat Stoqua.

The Riders, of course, ran the ball more than any other CFL team. That's because of Alvin "Skip" Walker, the league's premier ball carrier, who gained 1,431 yards on 238 attempts for an outstanding six-yard average. Walker (Texas A&M), who also caught 28 passes for 317 yards, will be led through the holes by bruising fullback Jim Reid.

Much of Walker's success is due to the line, led by the two-time Schenley winner as the top offensive lineman, Rudy Phillips (North Texas State). Phillips is entering his option year, but Brancato was hopeful that he could get the 6-foot-3, 230-pound guard's signature on a new long-term contract. Phillips and tackles Kevin Powell (Utah State) and Roger Cattelan (Boston College), both Canadians, are fixtures, but center Larry Tittley could get strong competition from rookie Jim De Silva, the Riders' protected pick. The left guard will be a tossup, with Brancato finding a starter from among homebreds Tim Hook, Kevin Dalliday, and Bob Stephen.

The strongest part of the Rider defense is the front four, which led the East in quarterback sacks (52) last season. End Greg Marshall (Oregon State) and tackle Gary Dulin (Ohio State) both made the all-Canadian team in 1983. They'll again be teamed with Canadian Mark Seale (Richmond) and import Jack Williams (Bowling Green), who plays as a down lineman or a standup linebacker.

Rick Sowieta (Richmond), former New York Jet Alvin Washington (Ohio State), and Steve Harrison, who had a fine rookie season after being selected out of the University of British

Columbia, make up the linebacking corps. Second-round pick Dan Rashovich will challenge Mike Graffi for a backup job.

Last season Brancato was playing musical secondary well into the schedule, but this spring he went into camp with a good idea as to who would emerge as his starters. Charles Johnson (Grambling), injured much of last season, and veteran Charles Cornelius (Bethune-Cookman) will man the corners, allowing Ivory Curry (Florida) to move inside along with Ken Miller (Eastern Michigan), while Ricky Barden (North Carolina) attempts to fit in somewhere. Junior Robinson stood out at the rover spot in his rookie season, and Jack Lynch came along strongly by the end of the year. Adding further depth to the secondary will be Maurice Martin, the Riders' first-round pick this year out of the University of Toronto.

HAMILTON TIGER-CATS

(5-10-1) The Tiger-Cats have had a long tradition of playing tough, aggressive football. But Al Bruno, who took over as head coach midway through the 1983 season when Bud Riley got his walking papers, was annoyed when tough turned to stupid and aggressive became foolish. Bruno, a one-time receiver with the Argonauts who returned to the CFL in 1982 as Hamilton's personnel director, is looking for the team to cut down on penalties and mistakes. "What I'm talking about," he said, "is going offside when we've forced the other team into a punting situation. Things like that."

Offensively, the Ticats will have most of the same faces that almost upset the Argos in the Eastern final last fall. The new look will be in the coaching ranks, where Jerry Bruner has come over from the B.C. Lions to handle the line and former Green Bay Packer star Elijah Pitts will coach the backfield.

Quarterback Dieter Brock, who won two Schenley Awards during a nine-year career in Winnipeg, came to Hamilton last season in a trade for quarterback Tom Clements. After making considerable fuss about wanting out of his CFL contract so that he could finish his career in the U.S. and after missing training camp and twice walking out on the team, Brock was shipped off to Hamilton by Bomber general manager Paul Robson. The strong-armed quarterback's USFL ambitions faded when (1) his hometown Birmingham Stallions acquired former Pittsburgh Steeler Cliff Stoudt and (2) the Washington Federals, who owned his rights, fired head coach Ray Jauch, who had been Brock's mentor in Winnipeg. In February, Brock announced his intention of returning to Hamilton, at least for 1984.

Brock, whose understudies will be Jeff Tedford (Fresno State), Pete Gales (Iowa), or Ed Lett (Jacksonville State), will have a talented receiving corps at his disposal. Keith Baker (Texas Southern), who had 66 receptions for 911 yards, and Ron Johnson (Long Beach State), 53 catches and 914 yards, are the wide-outs. Scott Collie (Brigham Young), who joined the team late last season and beat out veteran Rufus Crawford, and Canadian Rocky DiPietro will be the slot backs.

The Ticats are set at running back after dis-

covering 26-year-old rookie Johnny Shepherd last year. The Livingston University product, who had flunked earlier trials in the NFL, won Rookie of the Year honors after rushing for 1,069 yards, catching another 583 yards' worth of passes, and picking up 739 yards on kickoff returns. He'll be teamed in the backfield with veteran Canadian Mark Bragagnolo, who re-signed after playing out his option.

The Ticats' offensive line, which was the butt of jokes prior to last season, had the last laugh as it proved more than adequate in protecting Brock and creating openings for Shepherd. The unit will return intact now that 34-year-old center Henry Waszczuk (Kent State) has decided to come back.

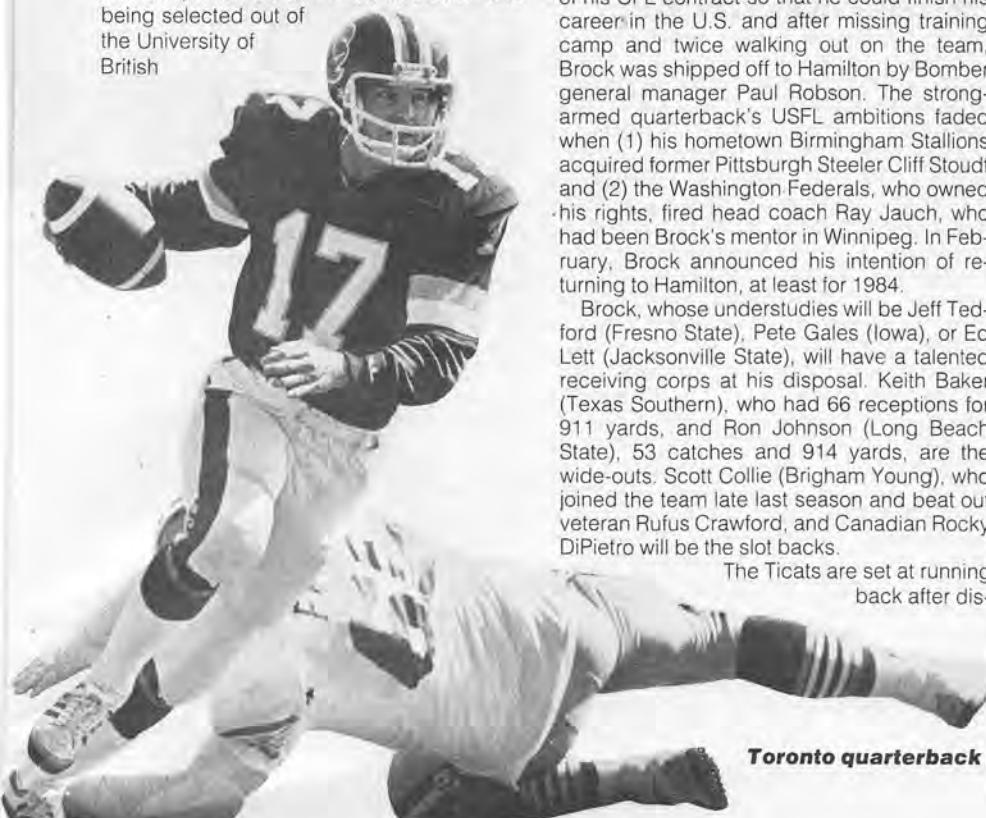
Bruno is confident that his offense can hold its own in the Eastern Division derby. What concerns him is the defense. "I expect the defense to do a better job this season," he said. "You can't be satisfied with a defense that was near the bottom of the league in quarterback sacks and in passing yardage against us. We simply have to improve."



Wide receiver Ron Johnson had 53 catches for the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

Defensive end Grover Covington (Johnson C. Smith) was below his form of '82, when he was the team's best lineman. He'll have to regain his touch or chances are he'll be replaced. Mitchell Price, another discovery from Livingston, will start at the other end. Mike Walker (Washington State) joined the team in September and ousted Claude Mathews from one defensive tackle. Bruno is hoping Canadian Dave Sauve (Harvard) can start as the other tackle, thus freeing an import for another position. Ralph Scholz, Hamilton's protected choice out of Cornell, could step immediately into a starting job if Sauve falters.

The linebacking crew is one part of the defense that has Bruno smiling. Canadian John Priestner, who had a brief fling with the Balti-



Toronto quarterback Joe Barnes

more Colts a few years back, is set in the middle. Leo Ezerins (Whitworth) should have a better year than he had in '83, when he moved over from the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. Ben Zambiasi (Georgia) was plagued by injuries much of last year but is sound once again, which means trouble for opposing ball carriers and quarterbacks.

The Ticats finished the season with Gerald Bess (Tuskegee) and Mark Streeter (Arizona) on the corners, but neither was consistent and they could be in trouble if a newcomer impresses at camp. The loss of Felix Wright (Drake) hurt the secondary, but he'll be back along with veteran Howard Fields (Baylor). If Bruno can work a Canadian into an import spot somewhere else, then Mark Young (Morgan State) could be the rover. Otherwise Canadian Mike McIntyre has that job.

Bernie Ruoff had the best punting (47.4 average) in the East, and he connected on 31 of 42 field-goal attempts. So Bruno has no concerns there. However, he wasn't happy with his team's return game. Working with the team from the first day of camp, Bruno can correct those shortcomings. When he does, the Ticats can be a formidable force.

MONTREAL CONCORDES

(5-10-1) It was in the summer of 1980 that coach Joe Scannella of the Montreal Alouettes, owned at the time by Sam Berger, fired quarterback Joe Barnes. Yes, the same Joe Barnes who last November 27 came off the bench to lead the Toronto Argonauts to their first Grey Cup in 31 years.

Since Scannella, now an assistant coach with the Cleveland Browns, sent Barnes packing four years ago, the Alouettes have perished (replaced by the Concordes) and a steady stream of quarterbacks has come through the doors of Olympic Stadium. None, however, has been capable of replacing the long-departed Barnes. The would-be quarterbacks have ranged from the enigma of Vince Ferragamo to the anonymity of John Rogan.

But 1984 will be different, vow the Concordes. And Montreal fans have every reason to believe that maybe this time the football club is right. Certainly in Turner Gill of Nebraska and Steve Smith of Michigan the Concordes have grabbed a couple of top-caliber U.S. college quarterbacks. But both are rookies coming to a different game (just ask Ferragamo), and whether they can lead Montreal out of the wilderness in their first year remains to be seen. The two young quarterbacks are not coming into as precarious a situation as did some of their predecessors. Coach Joe Galat, who has also taken over the GM's chores, has managed—without the benefit of territorial protections or first-round picks (traded away by previous regimes)—to put together a respectable club.

Galat had a gift handed to him in slot back Ron Robinson (Utah State), whom the talent-poor Saskatchewan Roughriders somehow declared surplus. He finished the season second only to the Argos' Terry Greer with 73 catches for 1,379 yards. The balance of Galat's fine receiving corps consists of Canadian Nick Arakgi, Todd Brown (Nebraska), Jeff Patterson (Youngstown State), and former NFLer Brian DeRoo (Redlands).

Lester Brown (Clemson) rushed for 792 yards last year and caught 37 passes for another 327 yards. In addition, he returned 15

kickoffs for a league-leading 30.6-yard average. Montreal native Denis Ferdinand, runner-up in the voting for the league's outstanding homebred player award, returns at fullback, where he gained 603 yards last season.

Montreal's offensive line was made up of rejects from other teams, but it improved as the season went on. Miles Gorrell, picked up from Calgary, had his best year. Lloyd Fairbanks, who broke an arm in the preseason and did not get back to his all-star status, should rebound from his injury. If Galat can sign his first- and second-round picks—center Ian Sinclair (Miami) and tackle Trevor Bowles (San Jose State)—then the line will be bigger and stronger.

Defensively, Galat is looking for a strong pass rush. (Who isn't?) Doug Scott, who missed the entire season with a knee injury, will provide some of that from left end. Glen Weir, at 33, shows no sign of slipping and will again be the nose tackle. James Zachery (Texas A&M) or Canadian Gene Belliveau will be the other end.

The Concordes had the luxury of four import linebackers last year: Del Fowler (West Virginia), Bill Hampton (Arkansas), Kurt Garl (Humboldt State), and Zach Cybert (North Texas State). One of them, however, might have to go this year to make room for second-year Canadian Mark Hopkins.

Galat gambled with a pair of rookie cornerbacks last year in Harry Skipper (South Carolina) and Andre Francis (New Mexico State) and got away with it. Skipper, in particular, was outstanding. He made ten interceptions (second only to B.C.'s Larry Crawford) and was selected to the all-Canadian team. The midseason acquisition of Vince Phason (Arizona), a former all-star with Winnipeg who failed in his bid to make it in the NFL, helped the young secondary. He and Joe Walker (Northern Arizona) return at the safety positions; either Preston Young or Phil Jones, a pair of Canadians, is the rover.

western division

BRITISH COLUMBIA LIONS

(11-5) The Grey Cup habit certainly did not get away from Don Matthews when he left the assistant coaching ranks with the Edmonton Eskimos to take the head job with the Lions. After going to the Grey Cup game six straight seasons with the Eskimos (and coming home with five championships), Matthews took the Lions to the title match in his first year on the other side of the Rocky Mountains. That's something the Lions hadn't done since 1964.

Matthews would like nothing better than to make it eight straight trips to the championship, especially since this year's game is in Edmonton. But it won't be easy. For one thing, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, who many people thought would have beaten the Lions in the Western Division final last year if quarterback Tom Clements had not been injured, will be even stronger this year. For another, the Lions have lost some key personnel. Gone are two players from the secondary which gave up the fewest passing yards (4,182) of any in the league. Kerry Parker (Grambling), considered by many as the league's best cornerback, signed with the Kansas City Chiefs, while Jo Jo Heath (Pittsburgh) jumped to the Houston Gamblers of the USFL. Matthews will try moving Billy McBride (Tennessee State) to the right corner in Heath's spot. Newcomer



Hamilton linebacker Ben Zambiasi (top), Montreal nose tackle Glen Weir (#64), and British Columbia wide receiver Mervyn Fernandez

Darnell Clash (Wyoming) is tabbed as Parker's successor. The inside men will assume the positions they held at the end of last year. Larry Crawford (Iowa State), who led the league in interceptions, with 12, and Mel Byrd (Cal-Davis) are the safeties, while Canadian Nelson Martin returns as the rover. Matthews also picked up veteran Ed Jones (Rutgers), who was being swept out in the Eskimos' house cleaning.

The balance of the defense will, if anything, be stronger. Up front, Nick Hebler will be back, healthy and as nasty as ever after missing a good portion of last season with a knee injury. Hebler's return allowed Matthews to deal import Reuben Vaughan (Colorado) to Toronto. Matthews liked the job done by Brent

Racette, who'll get a chance to hang on to a starting assignment. If he succeeds, the Lions could go with three Canadians on the line, the third being Rick Klassen. The lone import will be Mack Moore (Texas A&M).

No one, maybe not even Matthews, knows how the Lions' linebackers will line up. In passing situations he usually employed six defensive backs on the field. At times he even had seven. An injury to Tyrone Crews (Kansas State) gave Dave McNeel (Missouri) an opportunity to play late in the season (including the Grey Cup game), and he showed enough that Matthews might try to work both imports into his linebacking crew. If that happens, veteran Canadian Glen Jackson could be the odd man out. The Lions' other linebacker in Matthews's scheme is the "monster," the sixth defensive back who is strong enough to line up as a linebacker and handle the running game. If Matthews goes with an import at that spot it'll be Andre Jones (Nevada-Las Vegas). Otherwise either Kevin Konar or Bernie Glier will handle the assignment.

Offensively, the Lions must replace import tackle Don Swafford (Florida), who under an agreement was waived through the league at the end of the '83 season so he could move on to the Cincinnati Bengals this year. Matthews will look at a Canadian for the position, but the talent is thin and he'll likely end up with an import. Jack Campbell (Utah), who had a year with the Seattle Seahawks, is a candidate.

Matthews must also fill the vacancy created by his decision late last year to release Sammy Greene (Nevada-Las Vegas), his leading receiver at the time, for disciplinary reasons. He thinks he's found a replacement in Jim

Sandusky (San Diego State). The club's top receiver at the end of last season was Swervin' Mervyn Fernandez (San Jose State), who the Lions feel can become their equivalent to Terry Greer. Fernandez, going into his third season, caught 78 passes last year for 1,284 yards, the third-best total in the league. Canadian John Pankratz has developed into a fine inside receiver.

Running back John Henry White (Louisiana Tech) carried the ball just 84 times last year for 441 yards, an indication of just how little running the Lions did. He could wind up rushing even less this season if rookie Keyvan Jenkins, a speed back from Nevada-Las Vegas, wins the other backfield job over Ray Strong, also out of UNLV. "I think we have the ability to go with two import running backs again this year," said Matthews. "If not, we have Don Taylor and Ryan Potter."

The battle at quarterback is for the backup position to starter Roy Dewalt. With veteran Joe Paopao (Long Beach State) having played out his option and moved to the Saskatchewan Roughriders, the leading candidate is Tim Cowan (Washington), who was signed with considerable fanfare last year but who hasn't shown he can play at the pro level. Then there's Mike Williams, the younger brother of the Oklahoma Outlaws' Doug Williams, who has failed to make it with three other CFL clubs, and rookies Steve White (Eastern Washington) and Tom Bernal (Weber State). If a competent backup doesn't emerge from this quartet, then the Lions better make sure they keep Dewalt healthy. Otherwise, Matthews's string of trips to the Grey Cup game is sure to end at seven.

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS

(9-7) The CFL's Coach of the Year award has become a prize for overcoming adversity. With only two or three exceptions since its inception in 1961, the recipient of the Annis Stukus trophy has been a coach who has taken a team resembling a rusted-out Chevy and turned it into, if not a Cadillac, then at least an efficient Buick.

In the past ten years only Hugh Campbell of Edmonton was rewarded for improving on near perfection. That was in 1979, when the Eskimos won the second of five straight Grey Cups under Campbell's leadership. A year later, however, it was Ray Jauch's turn to win the award when he took a Winnipeg Blue Bomber team that had finished 4-12 in '79 and guided them to a 10-6 season. In 1981, Saskatchewan's Joe Faragalli won the trophy when he turned the Riders from a 2-14 team to a 9-7 club, even though the Green Machine failed to gain a playoff berth. The voters bypassed Campbell's fourth straight Grey Cup in 1982. They chose Bob O'Billovich, who took an Argonaut club that had finished 2-14 the previous season and guided it to a 9-6 mark and a trip to the Grey Cup.

The trend continued last year. The Blue Bombers' Cal Murphy became the 22nd winner of the award even though O'Billovich led the Argos to a 12-4 season and the club's first Grey Cup victory in 31 years. The Bombers actually had a poorer record (9-7) last year than in 1982 under Jauch (11-5), but the voters looked at the amount of adversity they felt Murphy had to overcome in his first year at Winnipeg and granted him the honors.

There's no doubt Murphy had to take his team over a lot of hurdles just to get as far as the Western Division playoffs. When he opened training camp he found himself without quarterback Dieter Brock, who boycotted the proceedings in hopes of getting out of his contract and jumping to the USFL. He was also without wide receiver Eugene Goodlow, running back William Miller, and veteran defensive back Vince Phason, all of whom had signed with NFL teams after playing out their options. Then, during the season, the headaches mounted as Brock twice walked out on the team before being traded finally to Hamilton for Tom Clements. On top of that the Bombers' injury list resembled the casualty roster of the M*A*S*H 4077 unit. Only nine Bomber starters played in all 16 games.

Murphy isn't without his problems now. Gone from last year's club are standout defensive end Pete Catan (Houston-USFL) and linebacker John Pointer (Green Bay-NFL). And there are questions about running back Willard Reaves (Northern Arizona), who tore up his knee late last season on his way to being named the West's top rookie. Reaves is expected to recover fully from his injury, but Murphy has several possible replacements on hand in case there are complications. The standby list includes former Calgary star James Sykes (Rice), Larry Jones (Colorado State), who has seen service with B.C. and Saskatchewan, and rookie Doug Kellom (Livingston).

Murphy is definitely in better shape at quarterback than he was a year ago. Clements, the former Notre Dame star who started his CFL career nine years ago with Ottawa, is still one of the top two or three quarterbacks in the league. The shoulder he dislocated late in '83

Quarterback Dieter Brock was traded by Winnipeg to Hamilton last year.





Defensive back Paul Bennett (#27) of Winnipeg and wide receiver Tom Scott (above) of Edmonton

has mended, and playing behind the big Winnipeg offensive line should give him time to perform at peak efficiency. Backing him up will be another CFL veteran, John Hufnagel (Penn State), who came over from Saskatchewan last season, Norman Gibb (Southern U.), and Steve Craynock (Richmond, San Diego-NFL).

The loss of Goodlow to the New Orleans Saints was eased by the performance of James Murphy (Utah State), who caught 61 passes for 1,126 yards. The Bombers also came up with a second jet-footed wide receiver in Jeff Boyd (Cal-Fullerton), who like Reaves was dropped by Edmonton at the end of training camp. Canucks Joe Poplawski and Rick House are excellent inside receivers, but both must bounce back from what were subpar years by their standards. Rookie Mike Ethier (South Dakota State), the club's territorial protection, or second-round pick Richard Nemeth (Western Ontario) will be vying for starting jobs if the veterans don't rebound.

Defensively, the Bombers' big task will be to replace Catan, who would have been a peren-

nial all-star had he chosen to stay in Canada. John Sturdivant (Maryland), who played the last two games of the season and the playoffs, is the leading candidate to succeed Catan. Tony Norman (Iowa State) and Canadian Doug MacIver return on the three-man front.

The Bombers made a fine catch last year in linebacker Tyrone Jones (Southern), and he'll lead the group into this season. Pointer will have to be replaced, but Aaron Brown (Ohio State) and homebrew Vernon Pahl appear set.

The Bombers sent Don Rose (Hampton Institute) back to Toronto in the offseason, which means that Kirby Wilson (Illinois) will likely shift from safety to left corner. Ernst Christmas (San Francisco State), who fractured his leg in the first game last season, or rookie Dennis Hench (Hamline) is expected to step into Wilson's safety spot. Veteran David Shaw (Prairie View), Ken Hailey (San Francisco State), and Paul Bennett, named the league's top Canadian player, comprise the rest of the secondary.

EDMONTON ESKIMOS

(8-8) Like a fine but old wool sweater the Edmonton Eskimos are beginning to unravel. The first hole appeared a year ago. That was when Hugh Campbell quit as head coach after five straight Grey Cups to move on to a new and more lucrative challenge with the Los Angeles Express of the United States Football League. Eskimo managing director Norm Kimball attempted to mend that hole with NFL assistant Pete Kettela. That lasted for only eight games. With the Eskimos at 4-4 and seemingly heading nowhere, Kimball fired Kettela and turned the reins over to his good friend and Eskimo legend Jackie Parker. Old Spaghetti Legs, his Mississippi drawl still intact after 30 years in Canada, managed to extract the same record over the second half of the season. More importantly, he restored



Calgary quarterback Bernard Quarles

harmony to a club that was critical of Kettela and he managed to get it into the playoffs.

The team didn't stay there long, mind you, losing to the Blue Bombers in the semifinal. But those five games gave Parker enough encouragement that he agreed to give up his job with a steel company and return as head coach this season. Keeping the Eskimos competitive won't be an easy chore for Parker.

For one thing, he won't have the league's best quarterback, Warren Moon, to lead his offense. After finally winning the Schenley Award as the league's most outstanding player, Moon departed for the NFL and a \$6 million contract from the Houston Oilers, who, incidentally, had signed Hugh Campbell as head coach a few weeks earlier. Louisiana Tech's Matt Dunigan, the backup last year, should step up to the No. 1 job. But he's a long way from having the experience necessary to carry a club in decline back to the top. He threw just 26 passes last season. His main rivals are Kevin Ingram (East Carolina) and Harold Smith (Texas Southern).

Parker felt the Eskimos fell behind last year in the area of team speed. That's why he wasn't too upset at the departure of wide receiver Waddell Smith, who played out his op-



Eskimos David Boone and Dan Kepley

tion and joined the Los Angeles Raiders. Parker feels he has just the replacement he wants in Chris Wood (Auburn), who is reputed to possess 4.4 speed. The rest of the receiving corps returns intact. Brian Kelly (Washington State) is the team's premier talent. With 104 catches for 1,812 yards last year, he was second only to Toronto's Terry Greer. Tom Scott (Washington) signed a new contract. With 80 catches for 1,234 yards in '83, he hasn't lost anything at age 32. Canadian Brian Fryer should be the other slot back.

The Eskimos' running game, which has been such a vital complement to their pass attack, also began to fray last season following the knee injury to veteran Jim Germany (New Mexico) that ended his season and perhaps his career in the fifth game. The leg had not healed completely as the Eskimos went to camp, and Parker was not optimistic about the 31-year-old Germany's chances of returning. Scott Stauch (UCLA), Larry Cowan (Jackson State), and rookie Darrel Green (UCLA) will battle it out for Germany's job. Canadian fullback Neil Lumsden also suffered a serious

knee injury late in the season, but he's come along well and should be able to resume his roles as the blocking back, short-yardage man, and able pass receiver. Lumsden's long-time backup, Angelo Santucci; Millson Jones, obtained from Winnipeg; and Greg Marshall, the top draft pick two years ago, all are coming off injury-plagued seasons.

Age has caught up to the Eskimos mostly on defense. Of the 12 starters last season, eight were 30 years old or over and none of the other four was under 25. The average age will certainly be a lot younger this season. During the offseason safety Ed Jones was dealt to the B.C. Lions and Larry Hayes, the other safety, was allowed to sign with the Green Bay Packers. Nose tackle Dave Fennell has retired, and the Eskimos made no secret of the fact that they wished cornerback Larry Highbaugh (Indiana) and linebacker Dale Potter, both 34, would do the same. Fennell's retirement means Potter must find a new nose tackle to play between David Boone (Eastern Michigan) and Tom Tuinei (Hawaii).

The Eskimos feel Dan Kepley (East Carolina) still has a year or two left in him, despite the fact he lost his perennial hold on the all-star middle-linebacker spot to Calgary's Dan Bass. However, in rookie Stewart Hill (Washington) they feel they have Kepley's eventual replacement. For now Hill will likely replace Potter at outside linebacker. Tom Towns and import James Parker (Wake Forest), who led the team in sacks for the third straight year, will be the other two backers.

As for the secondary, rover Mike McLeod

(Montana State) moves to a safety position and long-time Eskie Joe Hollimon (Arkansas State) will retain a cornerback job. Vying for the other three spots are newcomers Darryl Hall (San Diego State), Marcus Fisher (Montana), Wayne Jones (Bethune-Cookman), and Cliff Tony (Auburn).

Dave Cutler, the oldest Eskimo and the league's elder statesman now that Ottawa's Gerry Organ has retired, played out his option last year and has been toying with the idea of joining Campbell and Moon in Houston as the Oilers' kicker. If that happens, the Eskimos will have unraveled and a magnificent era in CFL history will have come to an end.

CALGARY STAMPEDERS

(8-8) The football writers will miss Jack Gotta. He was always good for a quote and his repertoire of stories, usually animated with body language, brought humor to a profession which often forgets that its participants are adults playing at a child's game. But not everyone connected with the Stampeders saw humor when Calgary missed the playoffs for the second time in three years. Especially not the club's board of directors. So, exit Gotta as head coach and general manager. Enter Steve Buratto, a native of Seattle who as a player went through two unsuccessful training camps with the Green Bay Packers.

It seemed that the annual story coming out of Calgary was that the Stamps were looking for a solid, take-charge quarterback and the receivers to go with him. But each year the quarterback would turn out to be not so

strong-armed and the fleet receivers a step slower than anticipated. Ironically, Gotta may have finally found the quarterbacks he was looking for in Bernard Quarles (Hawaii), Dan Barrett (Cincinnati), and Canadian Greg Vavra. Whether they'll have anyone to throw to remains unknown.

A vertebrae injury that eventually required surgery in the offseason forced receiver Willie Armstead (Utah), who had seven excellent seasons in Calgary, into retirement. Also calling it quits after an 11-year career was Canadian Tom Forzani (Utah State). That leaves only Canadian Mike McTague (North Dakota State) and import Mike Levenseller (Washington State) returning from last year's starting receiving corps. Waymon Aldridge (Nevada-Las Vegas) and Vic Wallace (Idaho) saw limited action in '83, and they'll be back along with Anthony Jenkins (Jackson State), who tore up his knee in the preseason last year.

Gotta dumped James Sykes (Rice), the third-leading rusher in club history, midway through last season after Ray Crouse (Nevada-Las Vegas) had established himself as the team's main running threat. Crouse had an excellent rookie season, gaining 703 yards (second-best in the West), but management hasn't been pleased with his offseason comments regarding renegotiation of his contract. If Crouse talks his way off the team, Buratto has Willie Gittens (Arizona State) and Phil Carter (Notre Dame) ready to step in. After going with two imports in the backfield last year, the Stamps under Buratto will employ a Canadian fullback. It'll be a rookie, unless

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they can swing a trade for a veteran. In the running are Nord Williams, Rick Peters, Parri Ceci, and Corrado Filice.

The offensive line will return intact, with Willie Thomas at center flanked by guards Kevin Molle and Bob Lubig (Montana State) and tackles Dave Kirzinger and Jeff Inglis. Last year's No. 1 draft pick, Jerry Dobrovolny, will get a shot at unseating Thomas.

After a couple of seasons in a "30" defense, Calgary is expected to return to a standard four-man front this season. The acquisition of much-traveled Lyall Woznesensky gives the Stamps the native defensive end they've been seeking. The release of Canadian tackle Rick Goltz means the Stampeders will go with three imports on the defensive line. Ed McAleney (Massachusetts), heading into his eighth season, will compete with tackle Randy Trautman (Boise State) and with ends Steve Wilburn (Illinois State) and Walter Ballard (Texas El Paso) for the positions.

Dan Bass (Michigan State), named the top defensive player in the West last season, is embroiled in a contract dispute, but that shouldn't prevent him from having another outstanding year. He's the premier middle linebacker in the league. James West (Texas Southern) will be one outside linebacker, although Andre Young (Bowling Green) might have other ideas. Canadians Bernie Morrison, Doug Battershill (Weber State), and Mark Nelson (East Central Oklahoma) will battle for the other outside position.

The Stamps were involved in a CFL first

when they sent veteran cornerback Terry Irvin (Jackson State) to Saskatchewan for assistant coach Jerry Hart. Irvin, a seven-year veteran, became expendable because of the play of Ron Hopkins (Murray State). Ray Odums (Alabama), entering his ninth season, will be the other cornerback. Richie Hall (Colorado State) showed that his 5-foot-6, 160-pound size was no hindrance as he gained all-star status as a rookie. He returns at one safety spot, while Lepolean Ingram (Cal-Sacramento), who was out all last year with a knee injury, will attempt to regain his job from Larry Hogue (Utah State) at the other safety spot. Homebrew Darrell Moir will be the rover.

SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS

(5-11) There was a time when they ran the football in the Canadian Football League. Honest. Even on first down. And there was no finer running machine in those days than the Green Machine from Regina. Led by the incomparable George Reed, the CFL's all-time rushing leader, the 'Riders went to the Grey Cup game five times between 1966 and 1976. Now coach Rueben Berry is reintroducing the ground game to the 'Rider playbook.

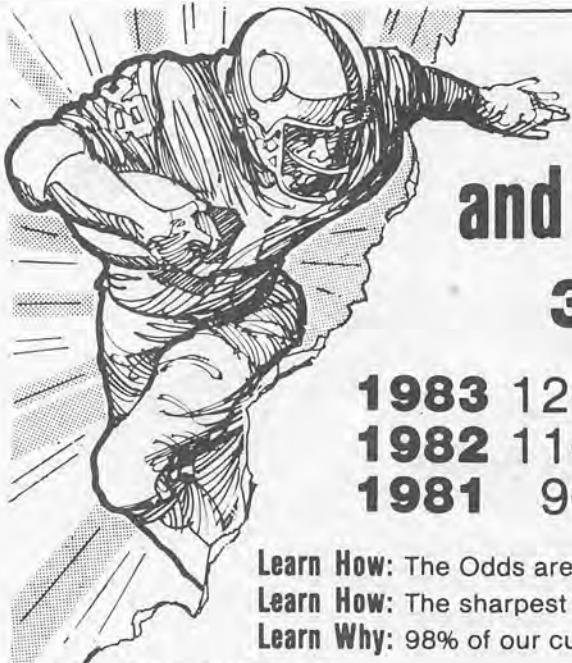
"I like to be able to run the ball," said Berry, a former assistant coach with B.C. Lions who was the president of an oil-gathering firm in Tulsa, Oklahoma, when he was offered the job of replacing Joe Faragalli midway through last season. "The weather out here on the prairies can get real nasty late in the season. That's

when you want to be able to run. You want to get back to the days of high-top shoes and leather helmets."

Today's pass-oriented CFL attacks feature two wide receivers, who are expected to be only slightly slower than members of an Olympic sprint team, and a pair of slot backs who aren't turtles, either. All are built like whippets, but few can block well enough to help a rabbit turn the corner. Thus Berry wants to return the all but extinct species known as the tight end to his offense. "No running game works without a tight end," he said, as he nominated Ray Elgaard, a 6-3 220-pound Canadian who attended the University of Utah, as his No. 1 candidate for the position.

Berry makes it clear that all his talk about resurrecting the running game doesn't mean he's doing away with the passing game. Not with the receivers he's got. They include Chris DeFrance (Arizona State), 71 catches for 1,165 yards; Sammy Greene (Nevada-Las Vegas), picked up from B.C., where he gained 755 yards on 75 receptions; Tim Kearse (San Jose State), Nate Johnson (Hillsdale), who can also play defense; Carl Powell (Jackson State), obtained in a trade with Ottawa for homebrew receiver Dwight Edwards; and Canadian Stewart Fraser.

The main man in Berry's running attack will be Mike Washington (Washington State), who finished as the West's third-leading rusher last season, with 639 yards. In Berry's ball-control offense, Washington might just double those numbers this year. Helping Washington



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through the holes and around the end will be fullback Greg Feiger, who'll be backed up by Robert Reid, the team's No. 1 pick in this year's draft.

The Riders traded veteran quarterback John Hufnagel (Penn State) to Winnipeg last year in return for Carl "Nicky" Hall (Tulane), who joined fellow rookie Homer Jordan (Clemson). The Riders signed the veteran Joe Pao-pao (Long Beach State), who had played out his option with B.C., in the off-season. Also in the quarterback derby are three freshman from the U.S. college ranks: John Bond (Mississippi State), Morris Bledsoe (Weber State), and Steve Clarkson (San Jose State).

The offensive line, barring a trade, should return intact. A change will occur only if Gerry Hornett or protected draft choice Mike Anderson (San Diego State) displaces one or both of the incumbent tackles, Lawrie Skolrood or Bryan Illebrun. The interior of the line will have Bob Poley at center flanked by guards Neil Quilter and all-star Roger Aldag.

Berry will also revise Saskatchewan's defensive charts. He plans to adopt a "30" defense, which means Vince Goldsmith (Oregon), the CFL's top rookie in 1981 and the league leader in sacks last season, with 20, will be taken out of his role of designated pass rusher. "We're going to make a true outside linebacker out of him," Berry proclaims. "If he can't [adjust], he won't play. We're going to get away from one-dimensional players on defense." But Berry traded Goldsmith during training camp to Toronto for end Rick Mohr (Cal-Davis). The three-man front will also have Canadian Al Johns (Utah) and Willie Jones (Florida State), who saw some action with the NFL Raiders over a four-year span.

Frank Robinson (Tulane), entering his third season with the 'Riders, will be one of the outside linebackers. Another Tulane product, Jeff Roberts, could be another. Rookie Billy Jackson (Mississippi State), who was All-SEC as a defensive end, will battle Eddie Lowe (Alabama) for one inside linebacking position. A Canadian, either veteran Gerry Friesen, second-year Mike Emery, or rookie Todd Stansbury (Georgia Tech), will be the other inside backer.

The secondary is deep in veterans. Whether that experience can be translated to read "too old" will soon be evident. Right corner Steve Dennis (Grambling) is now 32 and in his tenth CFL season. The left corner will be either Ken Hinton (San Diego State), 29, who spent seven years with B.C.; or Terry Irvin (Jackson State), also 29, who was involved in the

"trade" with Calgary that saw the Stamps receive the right to sign assistant coach Jerry Hart. Johnson, if he plays defense, or Darrell Songy (Oklahoma) will compete for one safety position, with homebrew Fran McDermott on the other side. Marshall Hamilton (Yale), David Singh, and rookie Glen Sutor will battle for the rover position.

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HAMILTON TIGER-CATS

Larry Alexander, DE, San Jose State; Michael Barbee, DE, UCLA; Cameron Brooks, DE, Gardner-Webb; James Capers, LB, Central Michigan; Ed Lett, QB, Jacksonville State; Rick Myall, RB, Bemidji State; Ken Oglesby, DT, Livingston; Thomas Ricks, DB, Illinois State; Ralph Scholz, DE, Cornell; Edroy Yancey, DB, Illinois State; John Ward, WR, Cornell College

MONTRÉAL CONCORDES

Tracy Adkins, CB, Washington State; Jeff Brown, WR, Iowa; Joe Curtis, RB, Illinois; Robert Gibbs, CB, Cincinnati; Turner Gill, QB, Nebraska; Carl Hamby, DT, San Jose State; Terry Lymon, RB, Ball State; Ed Harkins, LB, St. John's; Paul Martin, DT, South Carolina; Jeff Sanders, DB, No. Illinois; Steve Smith, QB, Michigan; James Smith, DB, Michigan State

OTTAWA ROUGH RIDERS

Winfred Carraway, DL, Michigan; James Cook, DL, Southern; Chuckie Davis, RB, Wisconsin (Calgary-CFL); Kerry Denison, WR, Tabor College; Dennis Dubois, WR, Northeastern; Reuben Eckles, WR, Wichita State; Elwin Holt, LB, Wichita State; Dale Shephard, LB, Texas Southern; Phil Switzer, DB, Kansas State; Jim Yingst, WR, Long Beach City

B.C. LIONS

Tim Bernal, QB, Weber State; Jack Campbell, OT, Utah (Seattle-NFL); Rocky Chess, DB, Nevada-Las Vegas; Darnell Clash, CB, Wyoming; Keith Gooch, DB, Fresno State; Mike Grant, WR, Central Washington; Mike Gray, DT, Oregon; Mark Hasart, OT, Colorado; Keyvan Jenkins, RB, Nevada-Las Vegas; Curtis Johnson, WR, Idaho; Ed Jones, DB, Rutgers (Edmonton-CFL); Kent Marboe, OT, Idaho State; Keith Martin, DT, Kentucky; Paul Najarian, DT, California; Hugh Parker, DB, Washington State; Scott Peters, DT, St. Mary's College; Jim Sandusky, WR, San Diego State; Mike Walker, LB, Nevada-Las Vegas; Steve White, QB, Eastern Washington; Wendell Williams, DB, Fresno State

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS

Jeff Blanchard, LB, Rutgers (Hamilton-CFL); Richard Buckner, WR, Kent State; Curtis Bunche, DE, Albany State; Mike Daniels, DE,

Northern Iowa; Mike Ethier, WR, South Dakota State; Steven Finch, WR, Elmhurst College; Ernie Fisher, DB, Santa Ana Jr. College; Dan Freidel, DB, Augustana; Dennis Hench, DB, Hamline; Holbert Johnson, DB, New Mexico State; Doug Kellom, RB, Livingston; Fletcher Louallan, DB, Livingston

EDMONTON ESKIMOS

Brian Allen, WR, Idaho; Kevin Allen, WR, California; Pat Boudreax, DT, SW Louisiana; Marcus Fisher, DB, Montana; Darrell Green, RB, UCLA; Darryl Hall, CB, San Diego State; Stewart Hill, LB, Washington; James Hunter, DT, USC; Kevin Ingram, QB, East Carolina; Wayne Jones, DB, Bethune-Cookman; Joe Jenkins, LB, Alcorn State; Charles Martin, DT,



Toronto defender Vince Goldsmith

Livingston; Billy Record, WR, West Texas State; John Samuelson, LB, Azusa Pacific; Dan Saso, DE, Idaho; Jay Schroeder, QB, UCLA; Victor Simon, LB, SMU; Harold Smith, QB, Texas Southern; Mark Schumate, DE, Wisconsin; Cliff Tony, CB, Auburn; Chris Woods, WR, Auburn

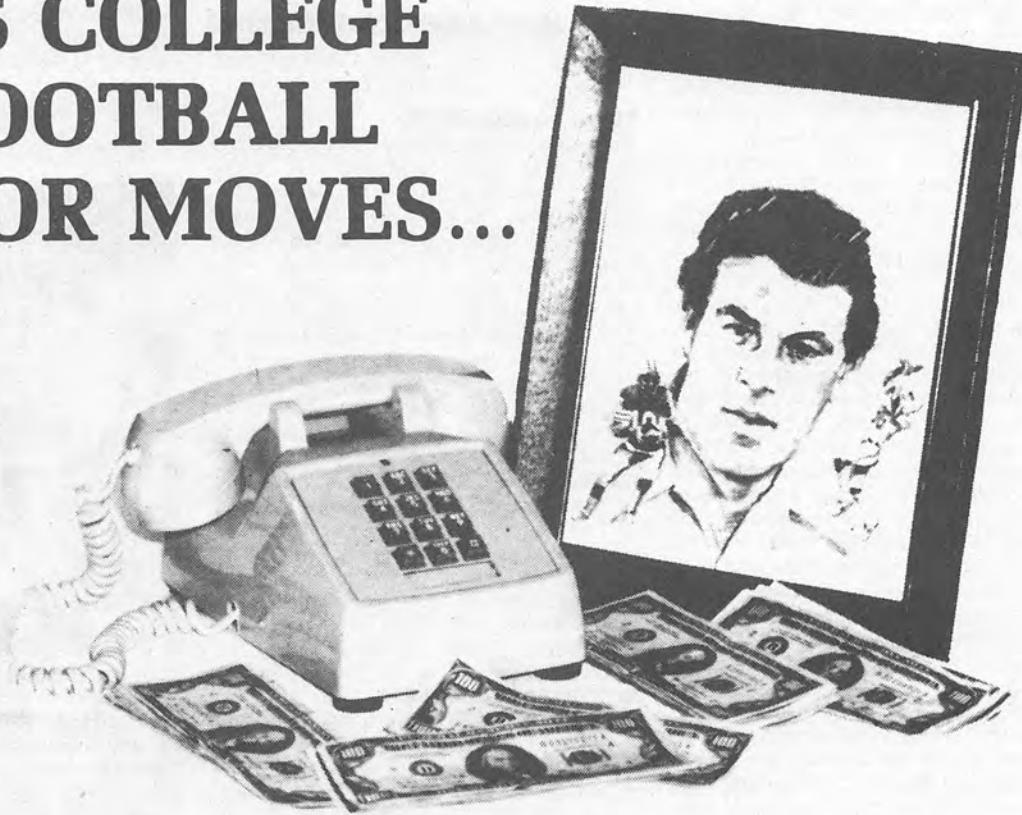
CALGARY STAMPEDERS

James Brown, DB, Long Beach State; Tim Bryant, LB, Southern Mississippi; Steve Carpenter, DB, Eastern Illinois (NY Jets-NFL); Phil Carter, RB, Notre Dame; Wally Gittens, RB, Nevada-Las Vegas; Lester Harper, LB, North Texas State; Mel Jenkins, DB, Cincinnati; William Johnson, DL, Eastern Washington; Tom Knight, DB, Hawaii; Admiral Dewey Larry, DB, Nevada-Las Vegas; Rick Massie, WR, Kentucky; Greg Peterson, DB, Brigham Young; David Rutherford, WR, Purdue; Fred Whitted, WR, Sonoma State; Ron Whittenburg, WR, Idaho

SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS

Mike Anderson, OG, San Diego State; Walter Black, DB, North Carolina; Morris Bledsoe, QB, Weber State; John Bond, QB, Mississippi State; Steve Clarkson, QB, San Jose State; William Davis, WR, Anselo State; Randy Fournier, DE, Cincinnati (Ottawa-CFL); Duane Galloway, DB, Arizona State; Leo Gray, DB, Nevada-Las Vegas (Toronto-CFL); Billy Jackson, LB, Mississippi State; Carl Powell, WR, Jackson State (Ottawa-CFL); Joe Paopao, QB, Long Beach State (B.C.-CFL); Ken Rose, LB, Nevada-Las Vegas; Carl Sipetz, DT, Illinois; Byron Smith, DT, Cal-Berkeley; Todd Stansbury, LB, Georgia Tech; Troy Thomas, CB, South Carolina; Fred Williams, DB, Cal-Berkeley; Casey Tiumalu, RB, Brigham Young

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RECORDS

Points: 155, Gino Cappelletti, Boston (1964)

TDs: 23, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1975)

FGs: 34, Jim Turner, New York (1968)

PATs: 64, George Blanda, Houston (1961)

SCORING

| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | XP | XPA | FG | FGA | SAF | POINTS |
|---------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|--------|
| Los Angeles Raiders | 54 | 18 | 31 | 5 | 51 | 54 | 21 | 27 | 2 | 442 |
| Seattle | 50 | 19 | 25 | 6 | 49 | 50 | 18 | 25 | 0 | 403 |
| Miami | 48 | 16 | 28 | 4 | 45 | 48 | 18 | 27 | 1 | 389 |
| Kansas City | 45 | 13 | 29 | 3 | 44 | 45 | 24 | 30 | 0 | 386 |
| San Diego | 45 | 16 | 27 | 2 | 43 | 45 | 15 | 24 | 0 | 358 |
| Cleveland | 42 | 13 | 27 | 2 | 38 | 40 | 22 | 25 | 0 | 356 |
| Pittsburgh | 39 | 17 | 15 | 7 | 38 | 39 | 27 | 31 | 1 | 355 |
| Cincinnati | 43 | 24 | 14 | 5 | 40 | 43 | 16 | 23 | 0 | 346 |
| New York Jets | 38 | 11 | 21 | 6 | 37 | 38 | 16 | 24 | 0 | 313 |
| Denver | 34 | 15 | 17 | 2 | 33 | 34 | 21 | 25 | 1 | 302 |
| Houston | 34 | 16 | 16 | 2 | 33 | 34 | 17 | 21 | 0 | 288 |
| Buffalo | 36 | 4 | 30 | 2 | 34 | 36 | 11 | 26 | 0 | 283 |
| New England | 36 | 19 | 16 | 1 | 31 | 36 | 9 | 22 | 0 | 274 |
| Baltimore | 25 | 10 | 12 | 3 | 22 | 24 | 30 | 35 | 1 | 264 |

KICKERS

| | XP | XPA | FG | FGA | PTS |
|-------------------------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| Anderson, Gary, Pitt. | 38 | 39 | 27 | 31 | 119 |
| Lowery, Nick, K.C. | 44 | 45 | 24 | 30 | 116 |
| Bahr, Chris, Raiders | 51 | 53 | 21 | 27 | 114 |
| Allegre, Raul, Balt. | 22 | 24 | 30 | 35 | 112 |
| Johnson, Norm, Sea. | 49 | 50 | 18 | 25 | 103 |
| Bahr, Matt, Clev. | 38 | 40 | 21 | 24 | 101 |
| von Schamann, Uwe, Mia. | 45 | 48 | 18 | 27 | 99 |
| Karlis, Rich, Den. | 33 | 34 | 21 | 25 | 96 |
| Benirschke, Rolf, S.D. | 43 | 45 | 15 | 24 | 88 |
| Brech, Jim, Cin. | 39 | 41 | 16 | 23 | 87 |
| Kempt, Florian, Hou. | 33 | 34 | 17 | 21 | 84 |
| Leahy, Pat, Jets. | 36 | 37 | 16 | 24 | 84 |
| Daneo, Joe, Buff. | 33 | 34 | 10 | 20 | 63 |
| Steinfeld, Buff.-N.E. | 17 | 18 | 7 | 21 | 38 |
| Smith, John, N.E. | 12 | 15 | 3 | 6 | 21 |
| Cox, Steve, Clev. | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Zendejas, Joaquin, N.E. | 3 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 3 |

NON-KICKERS

| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Johnson, Pete, Cin. | .14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 84 |
| Warner, Curt, Sea. | .14 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 84 |
| Muncie, Chuck, S.D. | .13 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 78 |
| Allen, Marcus, Raiders | .12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 72 |
| Campbell, Earl, Hou. | .12 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 72 |
| Christensen, Todd, Raiders | .12 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 72 |
| Pruitt, Mike, Clev. | .12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 72 |
| Largent, Steve, Sea. | .11 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 66 |
| Brown, Theotis, K.C. | .10 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 60 |
| Collins, Anthony, N.E. | .10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 60 |
| Cribs, Joe, Buff. | .10 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 60 |
| Duper, Mark, Mia. | .10 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 60 |
| Franklin, Andra, Mia. | .8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| Hawkins, Frank, Raiders | .8 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 48 |
| Winslow, Kellen, S.D. | .8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 48 |
| Abercrombie, Walter, Pitt. | .7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 42 |
| Carson, Carlos, K.C. | .7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 42 |
| Dickey, Curtis, Balt. | .7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 42 |
| Harris, Franco, Pitt. | .7 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 42 |
| Walker, Wesley, Jets | .7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 42 |
| Marshall, Henry, K.C. | .6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| McMillan, Randy, Balt. | .6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 36 |
| Moore, Nat, Mia. | .6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Newsome, Ozzie, Clev. | .6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Paige, Stephone, K.C. | .6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Ramsey, Derrick, N.E. | .6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Scott, Willie, K.C. | .6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |

SCORING

| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS |
|----------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Tuttle, Perry, Buff. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Weathers, Clarence, N.E. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Williams, Dokie, Raiders | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Winder, Sammy, Den. | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Adams, Willis, Clev. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Barber, Marion, Jets | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Belk, Rocky, Clev. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Bennett, Woody, Mia. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Brammer, Mark, Buff. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Clayton, Mark, Mia. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 12 |
| Curtis, Isaac, Cin. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Egloff, Ron, Den. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Grogan, Steve, N.E. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Harris, M.L., Cin. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Hasselbeck, Don, Raiders | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Holmes, Jerry, Jets | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 12 |
| Holohan, Pete, S.D. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Hughes, David, Sea. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Jackson, Billy, K.C. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| King, Kenny, Raiders | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Kozlowski, Mike, Mia. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 12 |
| Krieg, Dave, Sea. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Logan, Dave, Clev. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Marino, Dan, Mia. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Martin, Rod, Raiders | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 12 |
| Morgan, Stanley, N.E. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Muhammad, Calvin, Raiders | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Preston, Dave, Den. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Renfro, Mike, Hou. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Riley, Ken, Cin. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 12 |
| Robinson, Shelton, Sea. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 12 |
| Schonert, Turk, Cin. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Starring, Stephen, N.E. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Upchurch, Rick, Den. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Walker, Byron, Sea. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Wilson, Stanley, Cin. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Young, Charlie, Sea. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| van Eeghen, Mark, N.E. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Townsend, Greg, Raiders | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | *8 |
| Anderson, Ken, Cin. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Anderson, Kim, Balt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Anderson, Larry, Balt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Arnold, Walt, Hou. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Banks, Chip, Clev. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Barkum, Jerome, Jets. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Barnwell, Malcolm, Raiders | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Beach, Pat, Balt. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Best, Greg, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Blount, Mel, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Bokamper, Kim, Mia. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Brown, Curtis, Hou. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Brown, Steve, Hou. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Capers, Wayne, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Chavous, Barney, Den. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Clayton, Harvey, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Cooks, Johnnie, Balt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Dawkins, Julius, Buff. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Dawson, Lin, N.E. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| DeBerg, Steve, Den. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Dieken, Doug, Clev. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Dixon, Zachary, Sea. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Edwards, Stan, Hou. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Elway, John, Den. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Fouts, Dan, S.D. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Garrison, Gregg, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Gastineau, Mark, Jets. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Golic, Bob, Clev. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Green, Jacob, Sea. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Griffin, James, Cin. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Hancock, Anthony, K.C. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Harris, Durie, Mia. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Hector, Johnny, Jets | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |

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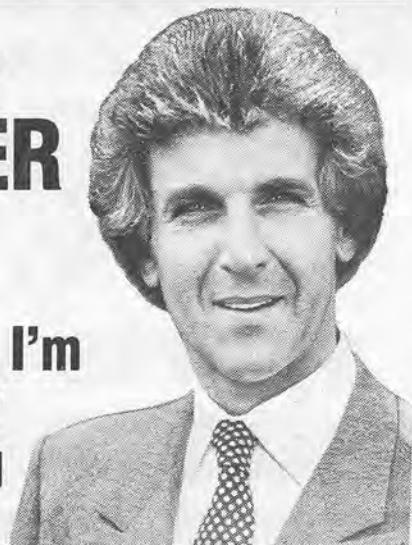
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| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS | | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS | | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS |
|---------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Hinkle, Bryan, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Moore, Alvin, Balt. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | Woods, Rick, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Horton, Ray, Cin. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Moore, Booker, Balt. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Young, Andre, S.D. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Jackson, Charles, K.C. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Moyer, Paul, Sea. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Zorn, Jim, Sea. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Jackson, Harold, Sea. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Myles, Jesse, Den. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Alzado, Lyle, Raiders. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Jensen, Derrick, Raiders | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Nelson, Derrie, S.D. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Charles, Mike, Mia. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Johnson, Ron, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Roaches, Carl, Hou. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Jones, Rulon, Den. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Jones, Cedric, N.E. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Roquemore, Durwood, K.C. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Kohrs, Bob, Pitt. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Kennedy, Mike, Buff. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Shuler, Mickey, Jets. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Thompson, Donnell, Balt. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Kilson, David, Buff. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Smith, Lucious, K.C. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Browner, Ross, Cin. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | #1 |
| Kreider, Steve, Cin. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Springs, Kirk, Jets. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Ryan, Pat, Jets. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | #1 |
| Kubiak, Gary, Den. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | Thomas, Ken, K.C. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | | | | | | |
| Leaks, Roosevelt, Buff. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | Thomas, Zack, Den. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | | | | | | |
| Lynn, Johnny, Jets. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Walker, Dwight, Clev. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | | | | | | |
| McCloskey, Mike, Hou. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Walls, Herk, Hou. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | | | | | | |
| Mehl, Lance, Jets. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Weathers, Robert, N.E. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | | | | | | |
| Merriweather, Mark, Pitt. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Weishuhn, Clayton, N.E. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | | | | | | |
| Metzelaars, Pete, Sea. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Williams, Reggie, Cin. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | | | | | | |

RECORDS

completions: 360, Dan Fouts, San Diego (1981)

tds: 36, George Blanda, Houston (1961)

yards: 4,802, Dan Fouts, San Diego (1981)

longest for tds: 99 yards, Jim Plunkett to Cliff Branch (1983)

| | ATT | COMP | PCT | COMP | YARDS | Avg | GAIN | TD | PCT | TD | LONG | INT | PCT | INT | RATING |
|------------------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Marino, Dan, Mia. | 296 | 173 | 58.4 | 2210 | 7.47 | 20 | 6.8 | 185 | 6 | 2.0 | | | | | 96.0 |
| Krieg, Dave, Sea. | 243 | 147 | 60.5 | 2139 | 8.80 | 18 | 7.4 | 150 | 11 | 4.5 | | | | | 95.0 |
| Fouts, Dan, S.D. | 340 | 215 | 63.2 | 2975 | 8.75 | 20 | 5.9 | 159 | 15 | 4.4 | | | | | 92.5 |
| Anderson, Ken, Cin. | 297 | 198 | 66.7 | 2333 | 7.86 | 12 | 4.0 | 180 | 13 | 4.4 | | | | | 85.6 |
| Plunkett, Jim, Raiders | 379 | 230 | 60.7 | 2935 | 7.74 | 20 | 5.3 | 199 | 18 | 4.7 | | | | | 82.7 |
| Grogan, Steve, N.E. | 303 | 168 | 55.4 | 2411 | 7.96 | 15 | 5.0 | 176 | 12 | 4.0 | | | | | 81.4 |
| Kenney, Bill, K.C. | 603 | 346 | 57.4 | 4348 | 7.21 | 24 | 4.0 | 53 | 18 | 3.0 | | | | | 80.8 |
| DeBerg, Steve, Den. | 215 | 119 | 55.3 | 1617 | 7.52 | 9 | 4.2 | 54 | 7 | 3.3 | | | | | 79.9 |
| Sipe, Brian, Clev. | 496 | 291 | 58.7 | 3566 | 7.19 | 26 | 5.2 | 166 | 23 | 4.6 | | | | | 79.1 |
| Todd, Richard, Jets. | 518 | 308 | 59.5 | 3478 | 6.71 | 18 | 3.5 | 164 | 26 | 5.0 | | | | | 70.3 |
| Ferguson, Joe, Buff. | 508 | 281 | 55.3 | 2995 | 5.90 | 26 | 5.1 | 143 | 25 | 4.9 | | | | | 69.3 |
| Zorn, Jim, Sea. | 205 | 103 | 50.2 | 1166 | 5.69 | 7 | 3.4 | 43 | 7 | 3.4 | | | | | 64.0 |
| Pagel, Mike, Balt. | 328 | 163 | 49.7 | 2353 | 7.17 | 12 | 3.7 | 172 | 17 | 5.2 | | | | | 64.0 |
| Luck, Oliver, Hou. | 217 | 124 | 57.1 | 1375 | 6.34 | 8 | 3.7 | 66 | 13 | 6.0 | | | | | 63.4 |
| Stoudt, Cliff, Pitt. | 381 | 197 | 51.7 | 2553 | 6.70 | 12 | 3.1 | 52 | 21 | 5.5 | | | | | 60.6 |
| Luther, Ed, S.D. | 287 | 151 | 52.6 | 1875 | 6.53 | 7 | 2.4 | 46 | 17 | 5.9 | | | | | 56.6 |
| Elway, John, Den. | 259 | 123 | 47.5 | 1663 | 6.42 | 7 | 2.7 | 149 | 14 | 5.4 | | | | | 54.9 |

NON-QUALIFIERS (10 or more attempts)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|----|------|------|------|---|-----|-----|---|------|--|--|--|--|-------|
| Blackledge, Todd, K.C. | 34 | 20 | 58.8 | 259 | 7.62 | 3 | 8.8 | 43 | 0 | 0.0 | | | | | 112.3 |
| Strock, Don, Mia. | 52 | 34 | 65.4 | 403 | 7.75 | 4 | 7.7 | 47 | 1 | 1.9 | | | | | 106.5 |
| Wilson, Marc, Raiders. | 117 | 67 | 57.3 | 864 | 7.38 | 8 | 6.8 | 150 | 6 | 5.1 | | | | | 82.0 |
| Kolter, Matt, Buff. | 61 | 35 | 57.4 | 440 | 7.21 | 4 | 6.6 | 128 | 3 | 4.9 | | | | | 81.3 |
| Kubiak, Gary, Den. | 22 | 12 | 54.5 | 186 | 8.45 | 1 | 4.5 | 178 | 1 | 4.5 | | | | | 79.0 |
| Schonert, Turk, Cin. | 156 | 92 | 59.0 | 1159 | 7.43 | 2 | 1.3 | 54 | 5 | 3.2 | | | | | 73.1 |
| Ryan, Pat, Jets. | 40 | 21 | 52.5 | 259 | 6.48 | 2 | 5.0 | 36 | 2 | 5.0 | | | | | 68.6 |
| Nielsen, Gifford, Hou. | 175 | 90 | 51.4 | 1125 | 6.43 | 5 | 2.9 | 48 | 8 | 4.6 | | | | | 62.2 |
| Woodley, David, Mia. | 89 | 43 | 48.3 | 528 | 5.93 | 3 | 3.4 | 164 | 4 | 4.5 | | | | | 59.6 |
| Manning, Archie, Hou. | 88 | 44 | 50.0 | 755 | 8.58 | 2 | 2.3 | 147 | 8 | 9.1 | | | | | 49.2 |
| Eason, Tony, N.E. | 95 | 46 | 48.4 | 557 | 5.86 | 1 | 1.1 | 35 | 5 | 5.3 | | | | | 48.4 |
| McDonald, Paul, Clev. | 68 | 32 | 47.1 | 341 | 5.01 | 1 | 1.5 | 27 | 4 | 5.9 | | | | | 42.6 |
| Malone, Mark, Pitt. | 20 | 9 | 45.0 | 124 | 6.20 | 1 | 5.0 | 38 | 2 | 10.0 | | | | | 42.5 |
| Herrmann, Mark, Balt. | 36 | 18 | 50.0 | 256 | 7.11 | 0 | 0.0 | 35 | 3 | 8.3 | | | | | 38.7 |
| Kerrigan, Mike, N.E. | 14 | 6 | 42.9 | 72 | 5.14 | 0 | 0.0 | 19 | 1 | 7.1 | | | | | 29.5 |
| Reed, Mark, Balt. | 10 | 6 | 60.0 | 34 | 3.40 | 0 | 0.0 | 16 | 1 | 10.0 | | | | | 26.7 |

RECORDS

number: 105, Bob Scarpitto, Denver (1967)

average: 46.2 yards, Dave Lewis, Cincinnati (1970)

longest: 98 yards, Steve O'Neal, New York (1969)

| | NO | YARDS | LONG | AVG | TB | BLK | OPP | RET | RET YDS | IN 20 | NET AVG |
|------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|-----|-----|-----|---------|-------|---------|
| Stark, Rohn, Balt. | 91 | 4124 | 68 | 45.3 | 9 | 0 | 55 | | 642 | 20 | 36.3 |
| Camarillo, Rich, N.E. | 81 | 3615 | 70 | 44.6 | 11 | 0 | 48 | | 392 | 25 | 37.1 |
| Buford, Maury, S.D. | 63 | 2763 | 60 | 43.9 | 8 | 0 | 35 | | 299 | 13 | 36.6 |
| Roby, Reggie, Mia. | 74 | 3189 | 64 | 43.1 | 11 | 1 | 32 | | 229 | 26 | 36.5 |
| Guy, Ray, Raiders | 78 | 3336 | 67 | 42.8 | 10 | 0 | 35 | | 334 | 17 | 35.9 |
| Colquitt, Craig, Pitt. | 80 | 3352 | 58 | 41.9 | 7 | 0 | 44 | | 418 | 20 | 34.9 |
| McNamee, Pat, Cin. | 67 | 2804 | 60 | 41.9 | 9 | 2 | 41 | | 310 | 13 | 33.5 |
| Prestridge, Luke, Den. | 87 | 3620 | 60 | 41.6 | 7 | 0 | 55 | | 524 | 19 | 34.0 |
| Gossett, Jeff, Clev. | 70 | 2854 | 60 | 40.8 | 8 | 0 | 30 | | 309 | 17 | 34.1 |
| Arnold, Jim, K.C. | 93 | 3710 | 64 | 39.9 | 6 | 0 | 54 | | 559 | 21 | 32.6 |
| Ramsey, Chuck, Jets. | 81 | 3218 | 56 | 39.7 | 5 | 1 | 47 | | 367 | 17 | 33.5 |
| Cater, Greg, Buff. | 89 | 3533 | 60 | 39.7 | 7 | 0 | 42 | | 403 | 24 | 33.6 |
| James, John, Hou. | 79 | 3136 | 53 | 39.7 | 8 | 1 | 47 | | 354 | 12 | 32.8 |
| West, Jeff, Sea. | 79 | 3118 | 56 | 39.5 | 10 | 0 | 36 | | 185 | 25 | 34.6 |

Leader based on gross average, minimum 40 punts

PASSING

RUSHING

RECORDS

Carries: 373, Earl Campbell, Houston (1980)

Yards: 2,003, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1973)

TDs: 19, Earl Campbell, Houston (1979)

19, Chuck Muncie, San Diego (1981)

| | ATT | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------|-----|------|----|
| Warner, Curt, Sea. | 335 | 1449 | 4.3 | 60 | 13 |
| Campbell, Earl, Hou. | 322 | 1301 | 4.0 | 42 | 12 |
| Pruitt, Mike, Clev. | 293 | 1184 | 4.0 | 27 | 10 |
| Cribbs, Joe, Buff. | 263 | 1131 | 4.3 | 45 | 3 |
| Cirrus, Curtis, Balt. | 254 | 1122 | 4.4 | 56 | 4 |
| Collins, Anthony, N.E. | 219 | 1049 | 4.8 | 150 | 10 |
| Allen, Marcus, Raiders. | 266 | 1014 | 3.8 | 19 | 9 |
| Harris, Franco, Pitt. | 279 | 1007 | 3.6 | 19 | 5 |
| Muncie, Chuck, S.D. | 235 | 886 | 3.8 | 134 | 12 |
| McMillan, Randy, Balt. | 198 | 802 | 4.1 | 139 | 5 |
| Johnson, Pete, Cin. | 210 | 763 | 3.6 | 116 | 14 |
| Winder, Sammy, Den. | 196 | 757 | 3.9 | 52 | 3 |
| Franklin, Andra, Mia. | 224 | 746 | 3.3 | 18 | 8 |
| Nathan, Tony, Mia. | 151 | 685 | 4.5 | 40 | 3 |
| McNeil, Freeman, Jets. | 160 | 654 | 4.1 | 19 | 1 |
| Pollard, Frank, Pitt. | 135 | 608 | 4.5 | 32 | 4 |
| Crutchfield, Dwayne, Jets-Hou. | 140 | 578 | 4.1 | 17 | 3 |
| Tatupu, Mosi, N.E. | 106 | 578 | 5.5 | 55 | 4 |
| Hawkins, Frank, Raiders. | 110 | 526 | 4.8 | 32 | 6 |
| Alexander, Charles, Cin. | 153 | 523 | 3.4 | 12 | 3 |
| Brooks, James, S.D. | 127 | 516 | 4.1 | 61 | 3 |
| Jackson, Billy, K.C. | 152 | 499 | 3.3 | 19 | 2 |
| Green, Boyce, Clev. | 104 | 497 | 4.8 | 29 | 3 |
| Brown, Theofis, Sea.-K.C. | 130 | 481 | 3.7 | 149 | 8 |
| Stoudt, Cliff, Pitt. | 77 | 479 | 6.2 | 23 | 4 |
| Abercrombie, Walter, Pitt. | 112 | 446 | 4.0 | 150 | 4 |
| Pagel, Mike, Balt. | 54 | 441 | 8.2 | 33 | 0 |
| Weathers, Robert, N.E. | 73 | 418 | 5.7 | 77 | 1 |
| Overstreet, David, Mia. | 85 | 392 | 4.6 | 44 | 1 |
| van Eeghen, Mark, N.E. | 95 | 358 | 3.8 | 11 | |

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(Never outside the spread)
Alabama +7½ over Auburn
(Easy Winner)

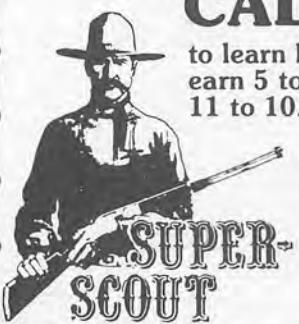


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AFC statistics

| | ATT | YARDS | Avg | Long | TD |
|------------------------------|-----|-------|------|------|----|
| Barber, Marion, Jets | 15 | 77 | 5.1 | 13 | 1 |
| Tate, Rodney, Cin. | 25 | 77 | 3.1 | 13 | 0 |
| Williams, Newton, Balt. | 28 | 77 | 2.8 | 13 | 0 |
| Zorn, Jim, Sea. | 30 | 71 | 2.4 | 118 | 1 |
| Kenney, Bill, K.C. | 23 | 59 | 2.6 | 11 | 3 |
| Sipe, Brian, Clev. | 26 | 56 | 2.2 | 9 | 0 |
| Krieg, Dave, Sea. | 16 | 55 | 3.4 | 110 | 2 |
| Luck, Oliver, Hou. | 17 | 55 | 3.2 | 17 | 0 |
| Thomas, Ken, K.C. | 15 | 55 | 3.7 | 28 | 0 |
| Myles, Jesse, Den. | 8 | 52 | 6.5 | 16 | 0 |
| Augustyniak, Mike, Jets | 18 | 50 | 2.8 | 6 | 2 |
| Hawthorne, Greg, Pitt. | 5 | 47 | 9.4 | 20 | 0 |
| Marino, Dan, Mia. | 28 | 45 | 1.6 | 15 | 2 |
| Walls, Herkie, Hou. | 5 | 44 | 8.8 | 14 | 0 |
| Nielsen, Gifford, Hou. | 8 | 43 | 5.4 | 20 | 0 |
| Davis, Johnny, Clev. | 13 | 42 | 3.2 | 16 | 0 |
| Edwards, Stan, Hou. | 16 | 40 | 2.5 | 9 | 0 |
| Eason, Tony, N.E. | 19 | 39 | 2.1 | 12 | 0 |
| Jackson, Ernest, S.D. | 11 | 39 | 3.5 | 6 | 0 |
| Dixon, Zachary, Balt.-Sea. | 9 | 32 | 3.6 | 7 | 0 |
| Verser, David, Cin. | 2 | 31 | 15.5 | 29 | 0 |
| DeBerg, Steve, Den. | 13 | 28 | 2.2 | 11 | 1 |
| Hunter, Tony, Buff. | 2 | 28 | 14.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Ricks, Lawrence, K.C. | 21 | 28 | 1.3 | 10 | 0 |
| Weathers, Clarence, N.E. | 1 | 28 | 28.0 | 28 | 0 |
| Reed, Mark, Balt. | 2 | 27 | 13.5 | 18 | 0 |
| Chandler, Wes, S.D. | 2 | 25 | 12.5 | 23 | 0 |
| Kofler, Matt, Buff. | 4 | 25 | 6.3 | 11 | 0 |
| Lewis, Kenny, Jets | 5 | 25 | 5.0 | 7 | 0 |
| Ryan, Pat, Jets | 4 | 23 | 5.8 | 25 | 0 |
| Berns, Rick, Raiders. | 6 | 22 | 3.7 | 13 | 0 |
| Martin, Mike, Cin. | 2 | 21 | 10.5 | 15 | 0 |
| Branch, Cliff, Raiders | 1 | 20 | 20.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Carson, Carlos, K.C. | 2 | 20 | 10.0 | 18 | 0 |
| Jones, Bobby, Clev. | 1 | 19 | 19.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Upchurch, Rick, Den. | 6 | 19 | 3.2 | 9 | 0 |
| Riddick, Robb, Buff. | 4 | 18 | 4.5 | 12 | 0 |
| Kubiak, Gary, Den. | 4 | 17 | 4.3 | 8 | 1 |
| McDonald, Paul, Clev. | 3 | 17 | 5.7 | 10 | 0 |
| Watson, Steve, Den. | 3 | 17 | 5.7 | 10 | 0 |
| Smith, Tim, Hou. | 2 | 16 | 8.0 | 9 | 0 |
| Harris, Tim, Pitt. | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 10 | 0 |
| Kerrigan, Mike, N.E. | 1 | 14 | 14.0 | 14 | 0 |
| Morgan, Stanley, N.E. | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Barnwell, Malcolm, Raiders | 1 | 12 | 12.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Hill, Eddie, Mia. | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Johns, Paul, Sea. | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 26 | 0 |
| Williams, Van, Buff. | 3 | 11 | 3.7 | 5 | 0 |
| Hadnot, James, K.C. | 4 | 10 | 2.5 | 7 | 0 |
| Jones, Lam, Jets | 4 | 10 | 2.5 | 9 | 0 |
| Clayton, Mark, Mia. | 2 | 9 | 4.5 | 9 | 0 |
| Holt, Harry, Clev. | 3 | 8 | 2.7 | 4 | 0 |
| Stark, Rohn, Balt. | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Montgomery, Cleotha, Raiders | 2 | 7 | 3.5 | 5 | 0 |
| Odom, Henry, Pitt. | 2 | 7 | 3.5 | 4 | 0 |
| Prestridge, Luke, Den. | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 7 | 0 |
| Allen, Gary, Hou. | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 5 | 0 |
| Cappelletti, John, S.D. | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 5 | 0 |
| Crosby, Ron, Jets. | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 5 | 0 |
| Jensen, Derrick, Raiders | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 5 | 0 |
| Bradshaw, Terry, Pitt. | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Dressel, Chris, Hou. | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Franklin, Byron, Buff. | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Renfro, Mike, Hou. | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Adams, Willis, Clev. | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Collinsworth, Cris, Cin. | 2 | 2 | 1.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Hall, Dino, Clev. | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Hardy, Bruce, Mia. | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Kreider, Steve, Cin. | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Lane, Eric, Sea. | 3 | 1 | 0.3 | 7 | 0 |
| Scott, Willie, K.C. | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 0 |

TEAM RUSHING LEADERS

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|----|
| Baltimore | 601 | 2695 | 4.5 | 56 | 10 |
| Pittsburgh | 614 | 2610 | 4.3 | 150 | 17 |
| New England | 538 | 2605 | 4.8 | 77 | 19 |
| Los Angeles Raiders | 542 | 2240 | 4.1 | 32 | 18 |
| Miami | 568 | 2150 | 3.8 | 44 | 16 |
| Seattle | 546 | 2119 | 3.9 | 60 | 19 |
| Cincinnati | 542 | 2104 | 3.9 | 29 | 24 |
| New York Jets | 474 | 2068 | 4.4 | 178 | 11 |
| Houston | 502 | 1998 | 4.0 | 80 | 16 |
| Cleveland | 465 | 1922 | 4.1 | 29 | 13 |

| | ATT | YARDS | Avg | LONG | TD |
|-------------|-----|-------|-----|------|----|
| Denver | 471 | 1784 | 3.8 | 52 | 15 |
| Buffalo | 415 | 1736 | 4.2 | 45 | 4 |
| San Diego | 423 | 1536 | 3.6 | 61 | 16 |
| Kansas City | 387 | 1254 | 3.2 | 149 | 13 |

PASS RECEIVING

RECORDS

Receptions: 101, Charlie Hennigan, Houston (1964)
 Yards: 1,746, Charlie Hennigan, Houston (1961)
 TDs: 17, Bill Groman, Houston (1961)

| (2 or more) | NO | YARDS | Avg | LONG | TD |
|----------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Christensen, Todd, Raiders | 92 | 1247 | 13.6 | 45 | 12 |
| Newsome, Ozzie, Clev. | 89 | 970 | 10.9 | 166 | 6 |
| Winslow, Kellen, S.D. | 88 | 1172 | 13.3 | 46 | 8 |
| Smith, Tim, HOU. | 83 | 1176 | 14.2 | 147 | 6 |
| Carson, Carlos, K.C. | 80 | 1351 | 16.9 | 150 | 7 |
| Largent, Steve, Sea. | 72 | 1074 | 14.9 | 146 | 11 |
| Allen, Marcus, Raiders | 70 | 590 | 8.7 | 36 | 2 |
| Collinsworth, Cris, Cin. | 66 | 1130 | 17.1 | 63 | 5 |
| Joiner, Charlie, S.D. | 65 | 960 | 14.8 | 133 | 3 |
| Walker, Wesley, Jets | 61 | 868 | 14.2 | 164 | 7 |
| Watson, Steve, Den. | 59 | 1133 | 19.2 | 178 | 5 |
| Morgan, Stanley, N.E. | 58 | 863 | 14.9 | 150 | 2 |
| Chandler, Wes, S.D. | 58 | 845 | 14.6 | 144 | 5 |
| Cribbs, Joe, Buff. | 57 | 524 | 9.2 | 133 | 7 |
| Nathan, Tony, Mia. | 52 | 461 | 8.9 | 25 | 1 |
| Duper, Mark, Mia. | 51 | 1003 | 19.7 | 185 | 10 |
| Marshall, Henry, K.C. | 50 | 788 | 15.8 | 52 | 6 |
| Harper, Bruce, Jets | 48 | 413 | 8.6 | 33 | 2 |
| Brown, Theotis, Sea. | 47 | 418 | 8.9 | 53 | 2 |
| Jones, Lam, Jets | 43 | 734 | 17.1 | 150 | 4 |
| Curtis, Issac, Cin. | 42 | 571 | 13.6 | 180 | 2 |
| Kreider, Steve, Cin. | 42 | 554 | 13.2 | 54 | 1 |
| Ross, Dan, Cin. | 42 | 483 | 11.5 | 30 | 3 |
| Muncie, Chuck, S.D. | 42 | 396 | 9.4 | 27 | 1 |
| Warner, Curt, Sea. | 42 | 325 | 7.7 | 28 | 1 |
| Upchurch, Rick, Den. | 40 | 639 | 16.0 | 40 | 2 |
| Branch, Cliff, Raiders | 39 | 696 | 17.8 | 199 | 5 |
| Sweeney, Calvin, Pitt. | 39 | 577 | 14.8 | 42 | 5 |
| Moore, Nat, Mia. | 39 | 558 | 14.3 | 166 | 6 |
| Logan, Dave, Clev. | 37 | 627 | 16.9 | 34 | 2 |
| Hancock, Anthony, K.C. | 37 | 584 | 15.8 | 50 | 1 |
| Young, Charle, Sea. | 36 | 529 | 14.7 | 47 | 2 |
| Jones, Bobby, Clev. | 36 | 507 | 14.1 | 132 | 4 |
| Lewis, Frank, Buff. | 36 | 486 | 13.5 | 127 | 3 |
| Hunter, Tony, Buff. | 36 | 402 | 11.2 | 140 | 3 |
| Butler, Jerry, Buff. | 36 | 385 | 10.7 | 25 | 3 |
| Barnwell, Malcolm, Raiders | 35 | 513 | 14.7 | 41 | 1 |
| Cunningham, Bennie, Pitt. | 35 | 442 | 12.6 | 29 | 3 |
| Johns, Paul, Sea. | 34 | 486 | 14.3 | 130 | 4 |
| Harris, Franco, Pitt. | 34 | 278 | 8.2 | 129 | 2 |
| Moore, Booker, Buff. | 34 | 199 | 5.9 | 21 | 1 |
| Sievers, Eric, S.D. | 33 | 452 | 13.7 | 28 | 3 |
| Dierking, Scott, Jets | 33 | 275 | 8.3 | 19 | 0 |
| Barkum, Jerome, Jets | 32 | 385 | 12.0 | 34 | 1 |
| Dressel, Chris, HOU. | 32 | 316 | 9.9 | 135 | 4 |
| Jackson, Billy, K.C. | 32 | 243 | 7.6 | 29 | 0 |
| Alexander, Charles, Cin. | 32 | 187 | 5.8 | 14 | 0 |
| Paige, Stephon, K.C. | 30 | 528 | 17.6 | 43 | 6 |
| Franklin, Byron, Buff. | 30 | 452 | 15.1 | 143 | 4 |
| Henry, Bernard, Balt. | 30 | 416 | 13.9 | 140 | 4 |
| Pruitt, Mike, Clev. | 30 | 157 | 5.2 | 21 | 2 |
| Holt, Harry, Clev. | 29 | 420 | 14.5 | 148 | 3 |
| Rose, Joe, Mia. | 29 | 345 | 11.9 | 37 | 3 |
| Walker, Dwight, Clev. | 29 | 273 | 9.4 | 35 | 1 |
| Scott, Willie, K.C. | 29 | 247 | 8.5 | 22 | 6 |
| Porter, Tracy, Balt. | 28 | 384 | 13.7 | 38 | 0 |
| Thomas, Ken, K.C. | 28 | 236 | 8.4 | 25 | 1 |
| Collins, Anthony, N.E. | 27 | 257 | 9.5 | 20 | 0 |
| Abercrombie, Walter, Pitt. | 26 | 391 | 15.0 | 151 | 3 |
| Shuler, Mickey, Jets | 26 | 272 | 10.5 | 28 | 1 |
| Bouza, Matt, Balt. | 25 | 385 | 15.4 | 26 | 0 |
| Sherwin, Tim, Balt. | 25 | 358 | 14.3 | 30 | 0 |
| Brammer, Mark, Buff. | 25 | 215 | 8.6 | 21 | 2 |
| Brooks, James, S.D. | 25 | 215 | 8.6 | 36 | 0 |
| Green, Boyce, Clev. | 25 | 167 | 6.7 | 33 | 1 |
| Dickey, Curtis, Balt. | 24 | 483 | 20.1 | 172 | 3 |
| Ramsey, Derrick, N.E. | 24 | 335 | 14.0 | 39 | 6 |
| Doornink, Dan, Sea. | 24 | 328 | 13.7 | 47 | 2 |

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AFC Statistics

| | NO | YARDS | Avg | Long | TD |
|----------------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| McMillan, Randy, <i>Ball</i> | 24 | 195 | 8.1 | 27 | 1 |
| Johnson, Dan, <i>Mia</i> | 24 | 189 | 7.9 | 33 | 4 |
| Rentro, Mike, <i>Hou</i> | 23 | 316 | 13.7 | 138 | 2 |
| Holahan, Peter, <i>S.D.</i> | 23 | 272 | 11.8 | 35 | 2 |
| Weathers, Robert, <i>N.E.</i> | 23 | 212 | 9.2 | 19 | 0 |
| Winder, Sammy, <i>Den</i> | 23 | 150 | 6.5 | 17 | 0 |
| Hardy, Bruce, <i>Mia</i> | 22 | 202 | 9.2 | 25 | 0 |
| McNeil, Freeman, <i>Jets</i> | 21 | 172 | 8.2 | 21 | 3 |
| Duckworth, Bobby, <i>S.D.</i> | 20 | 422 | 21.1 | 159 | 5 |
| Adams, Willis, <i>Clev</i> | 20 | 374 | 18.7 | 59 | 2 |
| Jones, Cedric, <i>N.E.</i> | 20 | 323 | 16.2 | 30 | 1 |
| Egloff, Ron, <i>Den</i> | 20 | 205 | 10.3 | 32 | 2 |
| Poole, Nathan, <i>Den</i> | 20 | 184 | 9.2 | 23 | 0 |
| Hawkins, Frank, <i>Raiders</i> | 20 | 150 | 7.5 | 28 | 2 |
| Weathers, Clarence, <i>N.E.</i> | 19 | 379 | 19.9 | 158 | 3 |
| Hawthorne, Greg, <i>Pitt</i> | 19 | 300 | 15.8 | 52 | 0 |
| Garnett, Gregg, <i>Pitt</i> | 19 | 279 | 14.7 | 38 | 1 |
| Campbell, Earl, <i>Hou</i> | 19 | 216 | 11.4 | 66 | 0 |
| Crutchfield, Dwayne, <i>Jets</i> | 19 | 133 | 7.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Tate, Rodney, <i>Cin</i> | 18 | 142 | 7.9 | 25 | 0 |
| Starring, Stephen, <i>N.E.</i> | 17 | 389 | 22.9 | 176 | 2 |
| Tuttle, Perry, <i>Buff</i> | 17 | 261 | 15.4 | 38 | 3 |
| Gaffney, Derrick, <i>Jets</i> | 17 | 243 | 14.3 | 35 | 0 |
| Preston, Dave, <i>Den</i> | 17 | 137 | 8.1 | 25 | 1 |
| Bryant, Steve, <i>Hou</i> | 16 | 211 | 13.2 | 26 | 0 |
| McCloskey, Mike, <i>Hou</i> | 16 | 137 | 8.6 | 20 | 1 |
| Pollard, Frank, <i>Pitt</i> | 16 | 127 | 7.9 | 17 | 0 |
| Harris, Duriel, <i>Mia</i> | 15 | 260 | 17.3 | 164 | 1 |
| Johnson, Pete, <i>Cin</i> | 15 | 129 | 8.6 | 18 | 0 |
| Williams, Dokie, <i>Raiders</i> | 14 | 259 | 18.5 | 150 | 3 |
| Holston, Michael, <i>Hou</i> | 14 | 205 | 14.6 | 43 | 0 |
| Mosley, Mike, <i>Buff</i> | 14 | 180 | 12.9 | 35 | 3 |
| Willhite, Gerald, <i>Den</i> | 14 | 153 | 10.9 | 126 | 1 |
| King, Kenny, <i>Raiders</i> | 14 | 149 | 10.6 | 134 | 1 |
| Muhammad, Calvin, <i>Raiders</i> | 13 | 252 | 19.4 | 45 | 2 |
| Feacher, Ricky, <i>Clev</i> | 13 | 217 | 16.7 | 142 | 3 |
| Wright, James, <i>Den</i> | 13 | 134 | 10.3 | 23 | 0 |
| Beckman, Ed, <i>K.C.</i> | 13 | 130 | 10.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Walls, Herkie, <i>Hou</i> | 12 | 276 | 23.0 | 48 | 1 |
| Walker, Byron, <i>Sea</i> | 12 | 248 | 20.7 | 150 | 2 |
| Thomas, Zack, <i>Den</i> | 12 | 182 | 15.2 | 44 | 0 |
| Arnold, Walt, <i>Hou</i> | 12 | 137 | 11.4 | 37 | 1 |
| Parros, Rick, <i>Den</i> | 12 | 126 | 10.5 | 133 | 2 |
| Wilson, Stanley, <i>Cin</i> | 12 | 107 | 8.9 | 19 | 1 |
| Craft, Donald, <i>Hou</i> | 12 | 99 | 8.3 | 14 | 0 |
| Dawkins, Julius, <i>Buff</i> | 11 | 123 | 11.2 | 128 | 1 |
| Butler, Raymond, <i>Balt</i> | 10 | 207 | 20.7 | 60 | 3 |
| Sampson, Clinton, <i>Den</i> | 10 | 200 | 20.0 | 149 | 3 |
| Capers, Wayne, <i>Pitt</i> | 10 | 185 | 18.5 | 36 | 1 |
| van Eeghen, Mark, <i>N.E.</i> | 10 | 102 | 10.2 | 23 | 0 |
| Hughes, David, <i>Sea</i> | 10 | 100 | 10.0 | 133 | 1 |
| Taputu, Mosi, <i>N.E.</i> | 10 | 97 | 9.7 | 17 | 1 |
| Barnett, Buster, <i>Buff</i> | 10 | 94 | 9.4 | 14 | 0 |
| Augustyniak, Mike, <i>Jets</i> | 10 | 71 | 7.1 | 17 | 1 |
| Thomas, Jewel, <i>K.C.</i> | 10 | 51 | 5.1 | 9 | 0 |
| Dawson, Lin, <i>N.E.</i> | 9 | 84 | 9.3 | 14 | 1 |
| Edwards, Stan, <i>Hou</i> | 9 | 79 | 8.8 | 20 | 1 |
| Jackson, Harold, <i>Sea</i> | 8 | 126 | 15.8 | 29 | 1 |
| Stallworth, John, <i>Pitt</i> | 8 | 100 | 12.5 | 20 | 0 |
| Leaks, Roosevelt, <i>Buff</i> | 8 | 74 | 9.3 | 12 | 0 |
| Harris, M.L., <i>Cin</i> | 8 | 66 | 8.3 | 14 | 2 |
| Oversheet, David, <i>Mia</i> | 8 | 55 | 6.9 | 20 | 2 |
| Myles, Jesse, <i>Den</i> | 7 | 119 | 17.0 | 33 | 1 |
| Smith, J.T., <i>K.C.</i> | 7 | 85 | 12.1 | 18 | 0 |
| Verser, David, <i>Cin</i> | 7 | 82 | 11.7 | 22 | 0 |
| Metzelaars, Petie, <i>Sea</i> | 7 | 72 | 10.3 | 117 | 1 |
| Barber, Marion, <i>Jets</i> | 7 | 48 | 6.9 | 12 | 1 |
| Clayton, Mark, <i>Mia</i> | 6 | 114 | 19.0 | 39 | 1 |
| Oatis, Victor, <i>Balt</i> | 6 | 93 | 15.5 | 25 | 0 |
| Lewis, Kenny, <i>Jets</i> | 6 | 62 | 10.3 | 23 | 0 |
| Smith, Sherman, <i>S.D.</i> | 6 | 51 | 8.5 | 21 | 0 |
| Moore, Alvin, <i>Balt</i> | 6 | 38 | 6.3 | 16 | 0 |
| Bennet, Woody, <i>Mia</i> | 6 | 35 | 5.8 | 9 | 0 |
| Beik, Rocky, <i>Clev</i> | 5 | 141 | 28.2 | 164 | 2 |
| Hector, Johnny, <i>Jets</i> | 5 | 61 | 12.2 | 122 | 1 |
| Beach, Pat, <i>Balt</i> | 5 | 56 | 11.2 | 16 | 1 |
| Jackson, Ernest, <i>S.D.</i> | 5 | 42 | 8.4 | 10 | 0 |
| Davis, Johnny, <i>Clev</i> | 5 | 20 | 4.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Odoms, Riley, <i>Den</i> | 4 | 62 | 15.5 | 21 | 0 |
| Williams, Newton, <i>Balt</i> | 4 | 46 | 11.5 | 19 | 0 |
| Hall, Dino, <i>Clev</i> | 4 | 33 | 8.3 | 18 | 0 |
| Moriarty, Larry, <i>Hou</i> | 4 | 32 | 8.0 | 12 | 0 |

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| | NO | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|--------------------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Riddick, Robb, <i>Buff</i> | 3 | 43 | 14.3 | 24 | 0 |
| Sawyer, John, <i>Den</i> | 3 | 42 | 14.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Skansi, Paul, <i>Pitt</i> | 3 | 39 | 13.0 | 21 | 0 |
| Hasselbeck, Don, <i>N.E.-Raiders</i> | 3 | 24 | 8.0 | 113 | 2 |
| Bryant, Cullen, <i>Sea</i> | 3 | 8 | 2.7 | 3 | 0 |
| Ricks, Lawrence, <i>K.C.</i> | 3 | 5 | 1.7 | 7 | 0 |
| Carr, Roger, <i>S.D.</i> | 2 | 36 | 18.0 | 23 | 0 |
| Rodgers, John, <i>Pitt</i> | 2 | 36 | 18.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Montgomery, Cleotha, <i>Raiders</i> | 2 | 29 | 14.5 | 15 | 0 |
| Scales, Dwight, <i>S.D.</i> | 2 | 28 | 14.0 | 14 | 0 |
| Martin, Mike, <i>Cin</i> | 2 | 22 | 11.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Hadnot, James, <i>K.C.</i> | 2 | 18 | 9.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Holman, Rodney, <i>Cin</i> | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 10 | 0 |
| Lane, Eric, <i>Sea</i> | 2 | 9 | 4.5 | 7 | 0 |
| Kinnebrew, Larry, <i>Cin</i> | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |

TOP 25 PASS RECEIVERS BY YARDS

| | YARDS | NO | AVG | LONG | TD |
|-----------------------------------|-------|----|------|------|----|
| Carson, Carlos, <i>K.C.</i> | 1351 | 80 | 16.9 | 150 | 7 |
| Christensen, Todd, <i>Raiders</i> | 1247 | 92 | 13.6 | 45 | 12 |
| Smith, Tim, <i>Hou</i> | 1176 | 83 | 14.2 | 147 | 6 |
| Winslow, Kellen, <i>S.D.</i> | 1172 | 88 | 13.3 | 46 | 8 |
| Watson, Steve, <i>Den</i> | 1133 | 59 | 19.2 | 178 | 5 |
| Collinsworth, Cris, <i>Cin</i> | 1130 | 66 | 17.1 | 63 | 5 |
| Largent, Steve, <i>Sea</i> | 1074 | 72 | 14.9 | 146 | 11 |
| Duper, Mark, <i>Mia</i> | 1003 | 51 | 19.7 | 185 | 10 |
| Newsome, Ozzie, <i>Clev</i> | 970 | 89 | 10.9 | 166 | 6 |
| Joiner, Charlie, <i>S.D.</i> | 960 | 65 | 14.8 | 133 | 3 |
| Walker, Wesley, <i>Jets</i> | 868 | 61 | 14.2 | 164 | 7 |
| Morgan, Stanley, <i>N.E.</i> | 863 | 58 | 14.9 | 150 | 2 |
| Chandler, Wes, <i>S.D.</i> | 845 | 58 | 14.6 | 144 | 5 |
| Marshall, Henry, <i>K.C.</i> | 788 | 50 | 15.8 | 52 | 6 |
| Jones, Lam, <i>Jets</i> | 734 | 43 | 17.1 | 150 | 4 |
| Branch, Cliff, <i>Raiders</i> | 696 | 39 | 17.8 | 199 | 5 |
| Upchurch, Rick, <i>Den</i> | 639 | 40 | 16.0 | 40 | 2 |
| Logan, Dave, <i>Clev</i> | 627 | 37 | 16.9 | 34 | 2 |
| Allen, Marcus, <i>Raiders</i> | 590 | 68 | 8.7 | 36 | 2 |
| Hancock, Anthony, <i>K.C.</i> | 584 | 37 | 15.8 | 50 | 1 |
| Sweeney, Calvin, <i>Pitt</i> | 577 | 39 | 14.8 | 42 | 5 |
| Curtis, Isaac, <i>Cin</i> | 571 | 42 | 13.6 | 180 | 2 |
| Moore, Nat, <i>Mia</i> | 558 | 39 | 14.3 | 166 | 6 |
| Kreider, Steve, <i>Cin</i> | 554 | 42 | 13.2 | 54 | 1 |
| Young, Charle, <i>Sea</i> | 529 | 36 | 14.7 | 47 | 2 |

INTERCEPTIONS

Number: 13, Lester Hayes, Oakland (1980)

Yards: 349, Charley McNeil, San Diego (1961)

Longest return: 102 yards

Gary Barbaro, Kansas City (1977)

Louis Breedon, Cincinnati (1981)

TDS: 4, Ken Houston, Houston (1971)

4, Jim Kearney, Kansas City (1972)

| (2 or more) | NO | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|---------------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Riley, Ken, <i>Cin</i> | 8 | 89 | 11.1 | 142 | 2 |
| McElroy, Vann, <i>Raiders</i> | 8 | 68 | 8.5 | 28 | 0 |
| Easley, Ken, <i>Sea</i> | 7 | 106 | 15.1 | 48 | 0 |
| Cherry, Deron, <i>K.C.</i> | 7 | 100 | 14.3 | 41 | 0 |
| Mehl, Lance, <i>Jets</i> | 7 | 57 | 8.1 | 134 | 1 |
| Walters, Danny, <i>S.D.</i> | 7 | 55 | 7.9 | 33 | 0 |
| Sanford, Rick, <i>N.E.</i> | 7 | 24 | 3.4 | 16 | 0 |
| Brown, Dave, <i>Sea</i> | 6 | 83 | 13.8 | 37 | 0 |
| Judson, William, <i>Mia</i> | 6 | 60 | 10.0 | 29 | 0 |
| Green, Gary, <i>K.C.</i> | 6 | 59 | 9.8 | 25 | 0 |
| Wright, Louis, <i>Den</i> | 6 | 50 | 8.3 | 34 | 0 |
| Horton, Ray, <i>Cin</i> | 5 | 121 | 24.2 | 155 | 1 |
| James, Roland, <i>N.E.</i> | 5 | 99 | 19.8 | 46 | 0 |
| Wilson, Steve, <i>Den</i> | 5 | 91 | 18.2 | 36 | 0 |
| Tullis, Willie, <i>Hou</i> | 5 | 65 | 13.0 | 44 | 0 |
| Small, Gerald, <i>Mia</i> | 5 | 60 | 12.0 | 28 | 0 |
| Woods, Rick, <i>Pitt</i> | 5 | 53 | 10.6 | 31 | 0 |
| Foley, Steve, <i>Den</i> | 5 | 28 | 5.6 | 16 | 0 |
| Shell, Donnie, <i>Pitt</i> | 5 | 18 | 3.6 | 18 | 0 |
| Harden, Mike, <i>Den</i> | 4 | 127 | 31.8 | 48 | 0 |
| Roquemore, Durwood, <i>K.C.</i> | 4 | 117 | 29.3 | 142 | 1 |
| Martin, Rod, <i>Raiders</i> | 4 | 81 | 20.3 | 140 | 2 |
| Blackwood, Lyle, <i>Mia</i> | 4 | 77 | 19.3 | 45 | 0 |
| Cousineau, Tom, <i>Clev</i> | 4 | 47 | 11.8 | 15 | 0 |
| Burruss, Lloyd, <i>K.C.</i> | 4 | 46 | 11.5 | 27 | 0 |
| Lewis, Albert, <i>K.C.</i> | 4 | 42 | 10.5 | 34 | 0 |
| Simpson, Keith, <i>Sea</i> | 4 | 39 | 9.8 | 14 | 0 |

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January 13, 1984

Mr. Bob Livingston
c/o SPORTS NEWSLETTER
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N. Charleston, S.C. 29406

Dear Bob,

Well, at the beginning of the year if I had told you that SPORTS NEWSLETTER was going to finish with a 33-18-1 records (65%), go as high as 57% against the spread during the middle part of the season, and have JUST ONE LOSING WEEK OUT OF 13, I believe you would have said, "Send me the trophy early."

Of course, that is exactly what you accomplished and it is hard to believe that not one, but two other superb sports services beat you out for the championship.

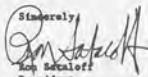
You can't be disappointed with the kind of year you had, though, and one first place finish and one second place finish in three years of competing is what we call real fine work. Here is the complete order of finish:

LS 1/4-1. --> 34-18
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5. --> 29-23 --> 56%
6. --> 28-23-1 --> 53%
7. --> 24-28 --> 46%

As usual your best bet analysis was both intriguing and often right on the money, and we hope to have both your selections and commentary back with us next year.

Thanks again, Bob, and have a great 1984.



Sincerely,

Ron Setaloff
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AFCstatistics

| | NO | YARDS | Avg | Long | TD |
|---------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Smith, Dennis, Den. | 4 | 39 | 9.8 | 23 | 0 |
| Hatchett, Derrick, Balt. | 4 | 36 | 9.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Blount, Mel, Pitt. | 4 | 32 | 8.0 | 21 | 0 |
| Holmes, Jerry, Jets | 3 | 107 | 35.7 | 143 | 1 |
| Smith, Lucious, K.C. | 3 | 99 | 33.0 | 158 | 1 |
| Banks, Chip, Clev. | 3 | 95 | 31.7 | 165 | 1 |
| Woodruff, Dwayne, Pitt. | 3 | 85 | 28.3 | 47 | 0 |
| Johnson, Ron, Pitt. | 3 | 84 | 28.0 | 134 | 1 |
| Ray, Darrol, Jets | 3 | 77 | 25.7 | 42 | 0 |
| Lynn, Johnny, Jets | 3 | 70 | 23.3 | 142 | 1 |
| Whitwell, Mike, Clev. | 3 | 67 | 22.3 | 28 | 0 |
| Merriweather, Mark, Pitt. | 3 | 55 | 18.3 | 131 | 1 |
| Dixon, Hanford, Clev. | 3 | 41 | 13.7 | 35 | 0 |
| Freeman, Steve, Buff. | 3 | 40 | 13.3 | 29 | 0 |
| Glasgow, Nesby, Balt. | 3 | 35 | 11.7 | 18 | 0 |
| Kemp, Bobby, Cinc. | 3 | 26 | 8.7 | 26 | 0 |
| Williams, Chris, Buff. | 3 | 6 | 2.0 | 4 | 0 |
| Blackwood, Glenn, Mia. | 3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Anderson, Kim, Balt. | 2 | 81 | 40.5 | 171 | 1 |
| Kozlowski, Mike, Mia. | 2 | 73 | 36.5 | 138 | 2 |
| Hayes, Lester, Raiders. | 2 | 49 | 24.5 | 28 | 0 |
| Young, Andre, S.D. | 2 | 49 | 24.5 | 140 | 1 |
| Breeden, Louis, Cinc. | 2 | 47 | 23.5 | 39 | 0 |
| Bokamper, Kim, Mia. | 2 | 43 | 21.5 | 124 | 1 |
| Sanford, Lucius, Buff. | 2 | 39 | 19.5 | 20 | 0 |
| Kay, Bill, Hou. | 2 | 31 | 15.5 | 27 | 0 |
| Romes, Charles, Buff. | 2 | 27 | 13.5 | 27 | 0 |
| Griffin, Ray, Cinc. | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Jackson, Robert, Cinc. | 2 | 21 | 10.5 | 15 | 0 |
| Keating, Chris, Buff. | 2 | 20 | 10.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Bracelin, Greg, Balt. | 2 | 19 | 9.5 | 19 | 0 |
| Delaney, Jeff, Balt. | 2 | 16 | 8.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Harris, John, Sea. | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 10 | 0 |
| Fox, Tim, S.D. | 2 | 14 | 7.0 | 14 | 0 |
| Burroughs, Jim, Balt. | 2 | 8 | 4.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Jackson, Bobby, Jets | 2 | 8 | 4.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Schroy, Ken, Jets | 2 | 6 | 3.0 | 4 | 0 |
| Marion, Fred, N.E. | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 4 | 0 |
| Bostic, Keith, Hou. | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burrell, Clinton, Clev. | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Johnson, Lawrence, Clev. | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Scott, Clarence, Clev. | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lambert, Jack, Pitt. | 2 | -1 | -0.5 | 0 | 0 |

KICKOFF RETURNS

Number: 55, Bruce Harper, New York (1978, 1979)

55, David Turner, Cincinnati (1979)

Yards: 1,317, Bobby Jancik, Houston (1963)

Longest: 106 yards, Noland Smith,

Kansas City (1967)

TDs: 3, Ray Clayborn, New England (1977)

| (2 or more) | NO | YARDS | Avg | Long | TD |
|-------------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Walker, Fulton, Mia. | 36 | 962 | 26.7 | 78 | 0 |
| Brown, Steve, Hou. | 31 | 795 | 25.6 | 193 | 1 |
| Williams, Kendall, Balt. | 20 | 490 | 24.5 | 90 | 0 |
| Dixon, Zachary, Balt.-Sea. | 51 | 1171 | 23.0 | 194 | 1 |
| Springs, Kirk, Jets | 16 | 364 | 22.8 | 64 | 0 |
| Williams, Van, Buff. | 22 | 494 | 22.5 | 60 | 0 |
| Brown, Preston, Jets | 29 | 645 | 22.2 | 46 | 0 |
| Montgomery, Cleotha, Raiders. | 21 | 464 | 22.1 | 48 | 0 |
| Smith, Ricky, N.E. | 42 | 916 | 21.8 | 53 | 0 |
| Walker, Dwight, Clev. | 29 | 627 | 21.6 | 38 | 0 |
| Green, Boyce, Glev. | 17 | 350 | 20.6 | 30 | 0 |
| Thomas, Zack, Den. | 28 | 573 | 20.5 | 42 | 0 |
| Riddick, Robb, Buff. | 28 | 568 | 20.3 | 49 | 0 |
| Wilson, Steve, Den. | 24 | 485 | 20.2 | 32 | 0 |
| Pruitt, Greg, Raiders. | 31 | 604 | 19.5 | 42 | 0 |
| Odom, Henry, Pitt. | 39 | 756 | 19.4 | 35 | 0 |
| Brooks, James, S.D. | 32 | 607 | 19.0 | 34 | 0 |
| Porter, Ricky, Balt. | 18 | 340 | 18.9 | 28 | 0 |
| Roaches, Carl, Hou. | 34 | 641 | 18.9 | 197 | 1 |
| Hancock, Anthony, K.C. | 29 | 515 | 17.8 | 33 | 0 |
| Anderson, Larry, Balt. | 18 | 309 | 17.2 | 26 | 0 |
| Harris, Tim, Pitt. | 18 | 289 | 16.1 | 32 | 0 |

NON-QUALIFIERS

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|-----|------|----|---|
| Laird, Bruce, S.D. | 15 | 342 | 22.8 | 41 | 0 |
| Brown, Theotis, K.C. | 15 | 301 | 20.1 | 46 | 0 |
| Simmons, John, Cinc. | 14 | 317 | 22.6 | 36 | 0 |

Leader based on average return, minimum 16 returns

Hector, Johnny, Jets

NO. YARDS AVG. LONG TD

Versen, David, Cin.

14 274 19.6 45 0

Jackson, Ernest, S.D.

11 201 18.3 32 0

Tate, Rodney, Cin.

13 253 19.5 29 0

Hughes, David, Sea.

12 282 19.5 23 0

Hall, Dino, Clev.

11 237 21.5 28 0

Jackson, Ernest, S.D.

11 201 18.3 32 0

Mostley, Mike, Buff.

9 236 26.2 33 0

Walls, Herkie, Hou.

9 110 12.2 25 0

Wilson, Stanley, Cin.

7 161 23.0 32 0

Horton, Ray, Cin.

5 128 25.6 49 0

Williams, Dokie, Raiders

5 88 17.6 19 0

McPherson, Miles, S.D.

5 77 15.4 19 0

Jones, Credit, N.C.

4 63 15.8 23 0

Lane, Eric, Sea.

4 58 14.5 18 0

Kozlowski, Mike, Ma.

4 50 12.5 23 0

Dressel, Chris, Hou.

4 40 10.0 13 0

Lee, Keith, N.E.

4 40 10.0 19 0

Weathers, Robert, N.E.

3 59 19.7 22 0

McAllister, Ken, Sea.

3 59 19.3 33 0

Weathers, Clarence, N.E.

3 57 19.0 26 0

Mullen, Davlin, Jers.

3 56 18.7 23 0

Williams, Ben, Buff.

3 45 15.0 18 0

Jordan, Jim, S.D.

3 41 13.7 19 0

Roguemore, Dunwood, K.C.

3 36 12.0 13 0

Nathan, Tony, Ma.

3 15 5.0 12 0

Cherry, Deion, K.C.

2 54 27.0 31 0

Moore, Davlin, Ball.

2 40 20.0 23 0

Ferguson, Vaggs, Clev.

2 36 18.0 27 0

Smith, Sherman, S.D.

2 32 16.0 21 0

Nicolas, Scott, Clev.

2 29 14.5 15 0

Troe, Mike, Sea.

2 28 14.0 19 0

Montary, Larry, Hou.

2 25 12.5 16 0

Miller, Matt, Raiders

2 19 9.5 10 0

Talley, Darryl, Buff.

2 9 4.5 5.0 0

Studdard, Dave, Dan.

2 8 4.0 8 0

FAIR CATCHES: Burness, K.C. & Jones, N.E.

Longest for TD: 97 yards, Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

Yards: 666, Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

Longest for TD: 97 yards, Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

RECORDS

Number: 58, J.T. Smith, Kansas City (1979)

58, Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

Yards: 666, Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

Longest for TD: 97 yards, Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

(2 or more)

NO. FG. YARDS AVG. LONG TD

Springs, Kirk, Jers.

23 4 287 12.5 176 1

Pruitt, Greg, Raiders

58 18 666 11.5 197 1

Johns, Paul, Sea.

5 316 11.3 175 1

Thomas, Zack, Den.

33 9 368 11.2 170 1

Smith, Ricky, N.E.

38 12 398 10.5 55 0

Martin, Mike, Cin.

23 3 227 9.9 19 0

Clayton, Mark, Ma.

41 11 392 9.6 60 1

Skarski, Paul, Pitt.

43 9 363 8.4 57 0

Smith, J.T., K.C.

26 5 210 8.1 19 0

Broches, Carl, Hou.

20 9 159 8.0 23 0

Brooks, James, S.D.

18 4 137 7.6 30 0

Hall, Dino, Clev.

39 12 284 7.3 19 0

Simmons, John, Cin.

25 2 173 6.9 43 0

Anderson, Lantz, Ball.

20 4 138 6.9 20 0

Riddick, Robb, Buff.

42 5 241 5.7 24 0

Porter, Ricky, Ball.

14 5 104 7.4 50 0

Hancock, Anthony, K.C.

14 9 81 5.8 18 0

Harmon, Mike, Jers.

12 8 109 5.8 21 0

Williams, Kendall, Ball.

9 4 43 4.8 13 0

Walker, Fulton, Ma.

8 0 86 10.8 23 0

Chandler, Wes, S.D.

8 6 26 3.3 11 0

Woods, Rick, Pitt.

5 0 46 9.2 13 0

Upchurch, Rick, Den.

4 1 52 13.0 17 0

Fortune, Hosea, S.D.

4 0 16 4.0 9 0

Weathers, Clarence, N.E.

4 0 1 0.3 3 0

Walker, Dwight, Clev.

3 0 26 8.7 13 0

Johnson, Gregg, Sea.

3 1 17 5.7 10 0

Harris, Tim, Pitt.

3 0 12 4.0 8 0

Scales, Dwight, S.D.

2 0 34 17.0 30 0

Haris, John, Sea.

2 0 27 13.5 14 0

Mullen, Davlin, Jers.

2 3 13 6.5 9 0

Kozlowski, Mike, Ma.

2 10 12 6.0 11 0

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SHOOTOUTS

RECORDS

points: 176, Paul Hornung, Green Bay (1960)

tds: 24, John Riggins, Washington (1983)

fgs: 35, Ali Haji-Sheikh, New York (1983)

pats: 62, Mark Moseley, Washington (1983)

SCORING

| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | XP | XPA | FG | FGA | SAF | POINTS |
|------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|--------|
| Washington | 63 | 30 | 29 | 4 | 62 | 63 | 33 | 47 | 1 | 541 |
| Dallas | 59 | 21 | 31 | 7 | 57 | 59 | 22 | 27 | 1 | 479 |
| San Francisco | 51 | 17 | 27 | 7 | 51 | 51 | 25 | 30 | 0 | 432 |
| Green Bay | 52 | 15 | 33 | 4 | 52 | 52 | 21 | 26 | 1 | 429 |
| St. Louis | 47 | 15 | 29 | 3 | 45 | 47 | 15 | 28 | 1 | 374 |
| Atlanta | 46 | 17 | 24 | 5 | 43 | 45 | 17 | 22 | 0 | 370 |
| Los Angeles Rams | 47 | 20 | 23 | 4 | 42 | 47 | 11 | 20 | 2 | 361 |
| Detroit | 38 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 38 | 38 | 25 | 32 | 3 | 347 |
| New Orleans | 38 | 19 | 14 | 5 | 37 | 38 | 18 | 24 | 0 | 319 |
| Minnesota | 34 | 17 | 15 | 2 | 33 | 34 | 25 | 33 | 2 | 316 |
| Chicago | 39 | 14 | 21 | 4 | 35 | 39 | 14 | 25 | 0 | 311 |
| New York Giants | 23 | 9 | 12 | 2 | 22 | 23 | 35 | 42 | 1 | 267 |
| Tampa Bay | 31 | 9 | 18 | 4 | 25 | 31 | 10 | 24 | 0 | 241 |
| Philadelphia | 27 | 5 | 22 | 0 | 24 | 27 | 15 | 26 | 1 | 233 |

KICKERS

| | XP | XPA | FG | FGA | PTS |
|--------------------------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| Moseley, Mark, Wash. | 62 | 63 | 33 | 47 | 161 |
| Haji-Sheikh, Ali, Giants | 22 | 23 | 35 | 42 | 127 |
| Wersching, Ray, S.F. | 51 | 51 | 25 | 30 | 126 |
| Septien, Rafael, Dall. | 57 | 59 | 22 | 27 | 123 |
| Stenerud, Jan, G.B. | 52 | 52 | 21 | 26 | 115 |
| Murray, Ed, Det. | 38 | 38 | 25 | 32 | 113 |
| Ricardo, Benny, Minn. | 33 | 34 | 25 | 33 | 108 |
| Luckhurst, Mick, Atl. | 43 | 45 | 17 | 22 | 94 |
| Andersen, Morten, N.O. | 37 | 38 | 18 | 23 | 91 |
| O'Donoghue, Neil, St.L. | 45 | 47 | 15 | 28 | 90 |
| Thomas, Bob, Chi. | 35 | 38 | 14 | 25 | 77 |
| Franklin, Tony, Phil. | 24 | 27 | 15 | 26 | 69 |
| Capece, Bill, T.B. | 23 | 26 | 10 | 20 | 53 |
| Nelson, Chuck, Rams | 33 | 37 | 5 | 11 | 48 |
| Lansford, Mike, Rams | 9 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 27 |
| Warnke, David, T.B. | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

NON-KICKERS

| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS |
|------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Riggins, John, Wash. | 24 | 24 | 0 | 0 | 144 |
| Dickerson, Eric, Rams | 20 | 18 | 2 | 0 | 120 |
| Green, Roy, St.L. | 14 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 84 |
| Quick, Mike, Phil. | 13 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 78 |
| Craig, Roger, S.F. | 12 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 72 |
| Andrews, William, Atl. | 11 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 66 |
| Brown, Ted, Minn. | 11 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 66 |
| Coffman, Paul, G.B. | 11 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 66 |
| Wilson, Wayne, N.O. | 11 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 66 |
| Dorsett, Tony, Dall. | 9 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 54 |
| Brown, Charlie, Wash. | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 48 |
| Clark, Dwight, S.F. | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 48 |
| Gault, Willie, Chi. | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 48 |
| Lofton, James, G.B. | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 48 |
| Marsh, Doug, St.L. | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 48 |
| Payton, Walter, Chi. | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 48 |
| Riggs, Gerald, Atl. | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| Springs, Ron, Dall. | 8 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 48 |
| Hill, Tony, Dall. | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 42 |
| Jefferson, John, G.B. | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 42 |
| Jones, James, Det. | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 42 |
| Norris, Ulysses, Det. | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 42 |
| Sims, Billy, Det. | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| Anderson, Ottis, St.L. | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 36 |
| Bailey, Stacey, Atl. | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Carpenter, Rob, Giants | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 36 |

| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS |
|---------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Cosbie, Doug, Dall. | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Ellis, Gerry, G.B. | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 36 |
| Galbreath, Tony, Minn. | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 36 |
| Newsome, Tim, Dall. | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 36 |
| Owens, James, T.B. | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 36 |
| Tyler, Wendell, S.F. | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 36 |
| Washington, Joe, Wash. | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Wilder, James, T.B. | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 36 |
| Dennard, Preston, Rams | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| Didier, Clint, Wash. | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 30 |
| Farmer, George, Rams | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| Gray, Earnest, Giants | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| House, Kevin, T.B. | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| Johnson, Billy, Atl. | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 30 |
| McKinnon, Dennis, Chi. | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 30 |
| Monk, Art, Wash. | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| Pearson, Drew, Dall. | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| Rogers, George, N.O. | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| Suhey, Matt, Chi. | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 30 |
| Tilley, Pat, St.L. | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| White, Danny, Dall. | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 30 |
| Chadwick, Jeff, Det. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 24 |
| Evans, Reggie, Wash. | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| Francis, Russ, S.F. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 24 |
| Gajan, Hokie, N.O. | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| Guman, Mike, Rams | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 24 |
| Hodge, Floyd, Atl. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 24 |
| Huckleby, Harlan, G.B. | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| Solomon, Freddie, S.F. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 24 |
| Thompson, Leonard, Det. | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 24 |
| White, Sammy, Minn. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 24 |
| Woolfolk, Butch, Giants | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| Barber, Mike, Rams | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Brenner, Hoby, N.O. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Carmichael, Harold, Phil. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Cooper, Earl, S.F. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Dickey, Lynn, G.B. | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Hipple, Eric, Det. | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Ivery, Eddie Lee, G.B. | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 18 |
| Jackson, Alfred, Atl. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Johnson, Butch, Dall. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Love, Randy, St.L. | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 18 |
| McMahon, Jim, Chi. | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 18 |
| Meade, Mike, G.B. | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 18 |
| Mitchell, Stump, St.L. | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Moorehead, Emery, Chi. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 |
| Oliver, Hubert, Phil. | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 18 |

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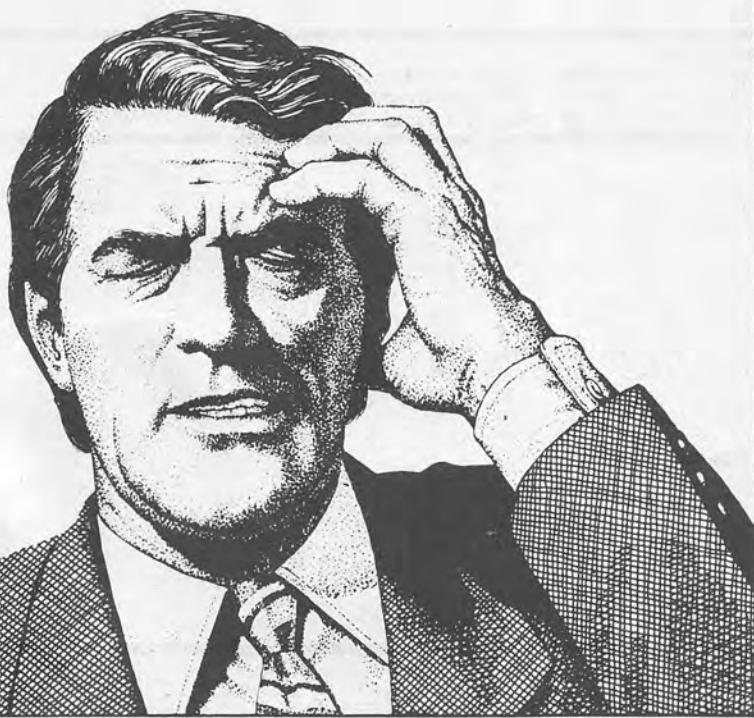
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| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS | | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS |
|--------------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Jenkins, Alfred, <i>All.</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Morris, Joe, <i>Giants</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Johnson, Bobby, <i>N.O.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Mowatt, Zeke, <i>Giants</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Johnson, Charlie, <i>Minn.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Mullady, Tom, <i>Giants</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Kab, Vito, <i>Phil.</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Nehemiah, Renaldo, <i>S.F.</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Korte, Steve, <i>N.O.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Nelson, Darrin, <i>Minn.</i> | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Lewis, Reggie, <i>N.O.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Nelson, Lee, <i>St.L.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Logan, Dave, <i>T.B.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Nichols, Mark, <i>Del.</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Martin, Robbie, <i>Det.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Obradovich, Jim, <i>T.B.</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| McDonald, James, <i>Rams</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | Perrin, Benny, <i>St.L.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| McLemore, Dana, <i>S.F.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | Pittman, Danny, <i>Giants</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Moore, Jeff, <i>S.F.</i> | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | Poe, Johnnie, <i>N.O.</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |

RECORDS

completions: 347, Steve DeBerg, San Francisco (1979)

tds: 36, Y.A. Tittle, New York (1963)

yards: 4,458 Lynn Dickey, Green Bay (1983)

longest for td: 99 yards, Frank Filchock to Andy Farkas, Washington (1939)

99 yards, George Izo to Bobby Mitchell, Washington (1963)

99 yards, Karl Sweetan to Pat Studstill, Detroit (1966)

99 yards, Sonny Jurgensen to Gerry Allen, Washington (1968)

PASSING

| | ATT | COMP | PCT COMP | YARDS | Avg GAIN | TD | PCT TD | LONG | INT | PCT INT | RATING |
|---|-----|------|----------|-------|----------|----|--------|------|-----|---------|--------|
| Bartkowski, Steve, <i>Atl.</i> | 432 | 274 | 63.4 | 3167 | 7.33 | 22 | 5.1 | 176 | 5 | 1.2 | 97.6 |
| Theismann, Joe, <i>Wash.</i> | 459 | 276 | 60.1 | 3714 | 8.09 | 29 | 6.3 | 84 | 11 | 2.4 | 97.0 |
| Montana, Joe, <i>S.F.</i> | 515 | 332 | 64.5 | 3910 | 7.59 | 26 | 5.0 | 177 | 12 | 2.3 | 94.6 |
| Lomax, Neil, <i>St.L.</i> | 354 | 209 | 59.0 | 2636 | 7.45 | 24 | 6.8 | 171 | 11 | 3.1 | 92.0 |
| Dickey, Lynn, <i>G.B.</i> | 484 | 289 | 59.7 | 4458 | 9.21 | 32 | 6.6 | 175 | 29 | 6.0 | 87.3 |
| White, Danny, <i>Dall.</i> | 533 | 334 | 62.7 | 3980 | 7.47 | 29 | 5.4 | 180 | 23 | 4.3 | 85.6 |
| McMahon, Jim, <i>Chi.</i> | 295 | 175 | 59.3 | 2184 | 7.40 | 12 | 4.1 | 187 | 13 | 4.4 | 77.6 |
| Ferragamo, Vince, <i>Rams</i> | 464 | 274 | 59.1 | 3276 | 7.06 | 22 | 4.7 | 161 | 23 | 5.0 | 75.9 |
| Jaworski, Ron, <i>Phil.</i> | 446 | 235 | 52.7 | 3315 | 7.43 | 20 | 4.5 | 183 | 18 | 4.0 | 75.1 |
| Thompson, Jack, <i>T.B.</i> | 423 | 249 | 58.9 | 2906 | 6.87 | 18 | 4.3 | 80 | 21 | 5.0 | 73.3 |
| Dils, Steve, <i>Minn.</i> | 444 | 239 | 53.8 | 2840 | 6.40 | 11 | 2.5 | 68 | 16 | 3.6 | 66.8 |
| Hipple, Eric, <i>Det.</i> | 387 | 204 | 52.7 | 2577 | 6.66 | 12 | 3.1 | 180 | 18 | 4.7 | 64.7 |
| Stabler, Ken, <i>N.O.</i> | 311 | 176 | 56.6 | 1988 | 6.39 | 9 | 2.9 | 48 | 18 | 5.8 | 61.4 |
| Brunner, Scott, <i>Giants</i> | 386 | 190 | 49.2 | 2516 | 6.52 | 9 | 2.3 | 62 | 22 | 5.7 | 54.3 |
| NON-QUALIFIERS (10 or more attempts) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Benjamin, Guy, <i>S.F.</i> | 12 | 7 | 58.3 | 111 | 9.25 | 1 | 8.3 | 173 | 0 | 0.0 | 117.0 |
| Hogeboom, Gary, <i>Dall.</i> | 17 | 11 | 64.7 | 161 | 9.47 | 1 | 5.9 | 24 | 1 | 5.9 | 90.6 |
| Danielson, Gary, <i>Det.</i> | 113 | 59 | 52.2 | 720 | 6.37 | 7 | 6.2 | 54 | 4 | 3.5 | 78.0 |
| Kemp, Jeff, <i>Rams</i> | 25 | 12 | 48.0 | 135 | 5.40 | 1 | 4.0 | 21 | 0 | 0.0 | 77.9 |
| Kramer, Tommy, <i>Minn.</i> | 82 | 55 | 67.1 | 550 | 6.71 | 3 | 3.7 | 49 | 4 | 4.9 | 77.8 |
| Moroski, Mike, <i>Atl.</i> | 70 | 45 | 64.3 | 575 | 8.21 | 2 | 2.9 | 150 | 4 | 5.7 | 75.6 |
| Pisarcik, Joe, <i>Phil.</i> | 34 | 16 | 47.1 | 172 | 5.06 | 1 | 2.9 | 33 | 0 | 0.0 | 72.2 |
| Evans, Vince, <i>Chi.</i> | 145 | 76 | 52.4 | 1108 | 7.64 | 5 | 3.4 | 172 | 7 | 4.8 | 69.0 |
| Wilson, Dave, <i>N.O.</i> | 112 | 66 | 58.9 | 770 | 6.88 | 5 | 4.5 | 42 | 7 | 6.3 | 68.7 |
| Rutledge, Jeff, <i>Giants</i> | 174 | 87 | 50.0 | 1208 | 6.94 | 3 | 1.7 | 54 | 8 | 4.6 | 59.3 |
| Golsteyn, Jerry, <i>T.B.</i> | 97 | 47 | 48.5 | 535 | 5.52 | 0 | 0.0 | 52 | 2 | 2.1 | 56.9 |
| Simms, Phil, <i>Giants</i> | 13 | 7 | 53.8 | 130 | 10.00 | 0 | 0.0 | 36 | 1 | 7.7 | 56.6 |
| Hart, Jim, <i>St.L.</i> | 91 | 50 | 54.9 | 592 | 6.51 | 4 | 4.4 | 139 | 8 | 8.8 | 53.0 |
| Wilson, Wade, <i>Minn.</i> | 28 | 16 | 57.1 | 124 | 4.43 | 1 | 3.6 | 36 | 2 | 7.1 | 50.3 |
| Lisch, Rusty, <i>St.L.</i> | 13 | 6 | 46.2 | 66 | 5.08 | 1 | 7.7 | 26 | 2 | 15.4 | 47.8 |
| Whitehurst, David, <i>G.B.</i> | 35 | 18 | 51.4 | 149 | 4.26 | 0 | 0.0 | 19 | 2 | 5.7 | 38.9 |

RECORDS

number: 114, Bob Parson, Chicago (1981)

average: 51.4 yards, Sammy Baugh, Washington (1940)

longest: 94 yards, Joe Lintzenich, Chicago (1931)

PUNTING

| | NO | YARDS | LONG | AVG | TB | BLK | OPP RET | RET YDS | IN 20 | NET AVG |
|-------------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|-----|---------|---------|-------|---------|
| Garcia, Frank, <i>T.B.</i> | 95 | 4008 | 64 | 42.2 | 12 | 1 | 59 | 603 | 15 | 33.0 |
| Runager, Max, <i>Phil.</i> | 59 | 2459 | 55 | 41.7 | 5 | 0 | 37 | 339 | 12 | 34.2 |
| Scribner, Bucky, <i>G.B.</i> | 69 | 2869 | 70 | 41.6 | 7 | 1 | 43 | 384 | 11 | 33.5 |
| Coleman, Greg, <i>Minn.</i> | 91 | 3780 | 65 | 41.5 | 8 | 0 | 40 | 297 | 28 | 36.5 |
| Birdsong, Carl, <i>St.L.</i> | 85 | 3529 | 59 | 41.5 | 7 | 0 | 47 | 307 | 14 | 36.3 |
| Black, Mike, <i>Det.</i> | 71 | 2911 | 60 | 41.0 | 9 | 1 | 39 | 302 | 17 | 33.7 |
| Erkelen, Russell, <i>N.O.</i> | 74 | 3034 | 60 | 41.0 | 9 | 0 | 49 | 571 | 10 | 30.9 |
| Giacomar, Ralph, <i>Atl.</i> | 70 | 2823 | 57 | 40.3 | 8 | 1 | 34 | 179 | 18 | 35.0 |
| Jennings, Dave, <i>Giants</i> | 84 | 3386 | 66 | 40.3 | 5 | 1 | 47 | 283 | 29 | 35.3 |
| Misko, John, <i>Rams</i> | 82 | 3301 | 67 | 40.3 | 12 | 1 | 39 | 251 | 18 | 33.9 |
| Orosz, Tom, <i>S.F.</i> | 65 | 2552 | 61 | 39.3 | 6 | 1 | 38 | 278 | 16 | 32.6 |
| Hayes, Jeff, <i>Wash.</i> | 72 | 2796 | 56 | 38.8 | 2 | 0 | 41 | 407 | 29 | 32.6 |
| Parsons, Bob, <i>Chi.</i> | 79 | 2916 | 54 | 36.9 | 5 | 0 | 37 | 261 | 21 | 32.3 |
| NON-QUALIFIERS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Warren, John, <i>Dall.</i> | 39 | 1551 | 54 | 39.8 | 1 | 0 | 24 | 283 | 7 | 32.0 |
| White, Danny, <i>Dall.</i> | 38 | 1543 | 50 | 40.6 | 3 | 1 | 26 | 233 | 6 | 32.1 |
| Skladany, Tom, <i>Phil.</i> | 27 | 1062 | 51 | 39.3 | 2 | 0 | 20 | 172 | 5 | 31.5 |
| Stachowicz, Ray, <i>Chi.</i> | 12 | 447 | 48 | 37.3 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 61 | 0 | 27.6 |
| Miller, Jim, <i>Dall.</i> | 5 | 178 | 43 | 35.6 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 72 | 1 | 21.2 |
| Merken, Guido, <i>N.O.</i> | 4 | 144 | 45 | 36.0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 30.5 |
| McMahon, Jim, <i>Chi.</i> | 1 | 36 | 36 | 36.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 36.0 |

Leader based on gross average, minimum 40 punts

| | TD | TDR | TDP | TDM | PTS |
|---------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rade, John, Atl. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Ramson, Eason, S.F. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Rubick, Rob, Det. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Schmidt, Terry, Chi. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Scott, Fred, Det. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Seay, Virgil, Wash. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Theismann, Joe, Wash. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Thompson, Vince, Det. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Thurman, Dennis, Dall. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Tice, John, N.O. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Tuttle, John, Giants | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Williams, Byron, Giants | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Wilson, Dave, N.O. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Young, Benjamin, Atl. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Young, Glen, Phil. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| English, Doug, Det. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *4 |
| Boyd, Greg, G.B. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *2 |
| Dickerson, Anthony, Dall. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *2 |
| Fanning, Mike, Det. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *2 |
| Galloway, David, S.L. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *2 |
| Mann, Charles, Wash. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *2 |
| Marshall, Leonard, Giants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *2 |
| Youngblood, Jack, Rams | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *2 |
| Yarno, George, T.B. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | #1 |

* = Safety (also 2 Minn, 1 each Rams, Phil.) # Scored extra point

RECORDS

RUSHING

Carries: 390, Eric Dickerson,
Los Angeles (1983)

Yards: 1,863, Jim Brown, Cleveland (1963)
TDs: 24, John Riggins, Washington (1983)

| | ATT | YARDS | Avg | LONG | TD |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|-----|------|----|
| Dickerson, Eric, Rams | 390 | 1808 | 4.6 | 185 | 18 |
| Andrews, William, Atl. | 331 | 1567 | 4.7 | 27 | 7 |
| Payton, Walter, Chi. | 314 | 1421 | 4.5 | 149 | 6 |
| Riggins, John, Wash. | 375 | 1347 | 3.6 | 44 | 24 |
| Dorsett, Tony, Dall. | 289 | 1321 | 4.6 | 77 | 8 |
| Anderson, Ottis, S.L. | 296 | 1270 | 4.3 | 43 | 5 |
| Rogers, George, N.O. | 256 | 1144 | 4.5 | 176 | 5 |
| Sims, Billy, Det. | 220 | 1040 | 4.7 | 41 | 7 |
| Woolfolk, Butch, Giants | 246 | 857 | 3.5 | 22 | 4 |
| Tyler, Wendell, S.F. | 176 | 856 | 4.9 | 39 | 4 |
| Wilson, Wayne, N.O. | 199 | 787 | 4.0 | 29 | 9 |
| Washington, Joe, Wash. | 145 | 772 | 5.3 | 41 | 0 |
| Craig, Roger, S.F. | 176 | 725 | 4.1 | 71 | 8 |
| Ellis, Gerry, G.B. | 141 | 696 | 4.9 | 71 | 4 |
| Suhay, Matt, Chi. | 149 | 681 | 4.6 | 39 | 4 |
| Nelson, Darren, Minn. | 154 | 642 | 4.2 | 156 | 1 |
| Wilder, James, T.B. | 161 | 640 | 4.0 | 175 | 4 |
| Carpenter, Rob, Giants | 170 | 624 | 3.7 | 37 | 4 |
| Springs, Ron, Dall. | 149 | 541 | 3.6 | 119 | 7 |
| Brown, Ted, Minn. | 120 | 476 | 4.0 | 43 | 10 |
| Jones, James, Det. | 135 | 475 | 3.5 | 18 | 6 |
| Galbreath, Tony, Minn. | 113 | 474 | 4.2 | 152 | 4 |
| Riggs, Gerald, Atl. | 100 | 437 | 4.4 | 140 | 8 |
| Oliver, Hubert, Phil. | 121 | 434 | 3.6 | 24 | 1 |
| Gajan, Hokie, N.O. | 81 | 415 | 5.1 | 58 | 4 |
| Williams, Mike, Phil. | 103 | 385 | 3.7 | 32 | 0 |
| Mitchell, Stump, S.L. | 68 | 373 | 5.5 | 46 | 3 |
| Redden, Barry, Rams | 75 | 372 | 5.0 | 140 | 2 |
| Carver, Mel, T.B. | 114 | 348 | 3.1 | 16 | 0 |
| Ivery, Eddie Lee, G.B. | 86 | 340 | 4.0 | 21 | 2 |
| Clark, Jessie, G.B. | 71 | 328 | 4.6 | 42 | 0 |
| McMahon, Jim, Chi. | 55 | 307 | 5.6 | 32 | 2 |
| Montana, Joe, S.F. | 61 | 284 | 4.7 | 18 | 2 |
| Owens, James, T.B. | 96 | 266 | 2.8 | 15 | 5 |
| Morris, Wayne, S.L. | 75 | 257 | 3.4 | 17 | 2 |
| Ring, Bill, S.F. | 64 | 254 | 4.0 | 25 | 2 |
| Bussey, Dexter, Det. | 57 | 249 | 4.4 | 26 | 0 |
| Theismann, Joe, Wash. | 37 | 234 | 6.3 | 22 | 1 |
| Haddix, Michael, Phil. | 91 | 220 | 2.4 | 11 | 2 |
| Meade, Mike, G.B. | 55 | 201 | 3.7 | 15 | 1 |
| Newsome, Tim, Dall. | 44 | 185 | 4.2 | 20 | 2 |
| Huckleby, Harlan, G.B. | 50 | 182 | 3.6 | 20 | 4 |
| Hipple, Eric, Det. | 41 | 171 | 4.2 | 27 | 3 |
| Morris, Joe, Giants | 35 | 145 | 4.1 | 16 | 0 |
| Evans, Vince, Chi. | 22 | 142 | 6.5 | 27 | 1 |
| Montgomery, Wilbert, Phil. | 29 | 139 | 4.8 | 32 | 0 |
| Thompson, Vince, Det. | 40 | 138 | 3.5 | 10 | 1 |
| Jaworski, Ron, Phil. | 25 | 129 | 5.2 | 29 | 1 |
| Lomax, Neil, S.L. | 27 | 127 | 4.7 | 35 | 2 |

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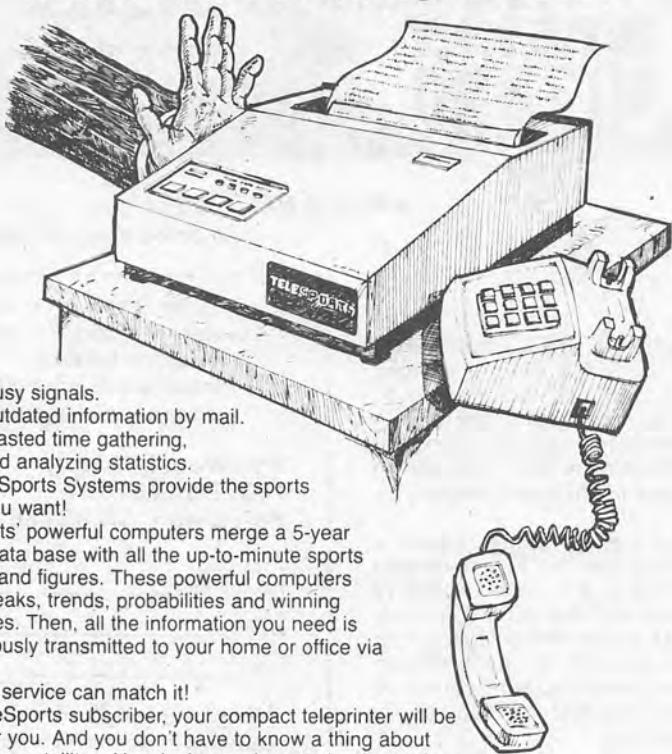
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NFC statistics

| | ATT | YARDS | Avg | Long | TD |
|-----------------------------|-----|-------|------|------|----|
| Love, Randy, St.L. | 35 | 103 | 2.9 | 16 | 2 |
| Harrington, Perry, Phil. | 23 | 98 | 4.3 | 35 | 1 |
| Young, Rickey, Minn. | 39 | 90 | 2.3 | 9 | 2 |
| Wonsley, Otis, Wash. | 25 | 88 | 3.5 | 9 | 0 |
| Johnson, Billy, Atl. | 15 | 83 | 5.5 | 36 | 0 |
| Rogers, Jimmy, N.O. | 26 | 80 | 3.1 | 13 | 0 |
| Thompson, Leonard, Det. | 4 | 72 | 18.0 | 140 | 1 |
| Gentry, Dennis, Chi. | 16 | 65 | 4.1 | 17 | 0 |
| Brunner, Scott, Giants | 26 | 64 | 2.5 | 12 | 0 |
| Cain, Lynn, Atl. | 19 | 63 | 3.3 | 10 | 1 |
| Hayes, Jeff, Wash. | 2 | 63 | 31.5 | 48 | 0 |
| Brown, Charlie, Wash. | 4 | 53 | 13.3 | 17 | 0 |
| Farrell, Earl, St.L. | 7 | 53 | 7.6 | 21 | 1 |
| Giaquinto, Nick, Wash. | 14 | 53 | 3.8 | 11 | 1 |
| Green, Roy, St.L. | 4 | 49 | 12.3 | 25 | 0 |
| Tuggle, John, Giants | 17 | 49 | 2.9 | 17 | 1 |
| Redwine, Jarvis, Minn. | 10 | 48 | 4.8 | 21 | 0 |
| Moore, Jeff, S.F. | 15 | 43 | 2.9 | 14 | 1 |
| Guman, Mike, Rams | 7 | 42 | 6.0 | 11 | 0 |
| LeCount, Terry, Minn. | 2 | 42 | 21.0 | 40 | 0 |
| Orosz, Tom, S.F. | 2 | 39 | 19.5 | 23 | 0 |
| Bartkowski, Steve, Atl. | 16 | 38 | 2.4 | 10 | 1 |
| Lofton, James, G.B. | 9 | 36 | 4.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Newhouse, Robert, Dall. | 9 | 34 | 3.8 | 8 | 0 |
| Gault, Willie, Chi. | 4 | 31 | 7.8 | 22 | 0 |
| White, Danny, Dall. | 18 | 31 | 1.7 | 22 | 4 |
| Armstrong, Adger, T.B. | 7 | 30 | 4.3 | 7 | 0 |
| Alexander, Robert, Rams | 7 | 28 | 4.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Dils, Steve, Minn. | 16 | 28 | 1.8 | 8 | 0 |
| Morton, Michael, T.B. | 13 | 28 | 2.2 | 5 | 0 |
| Parsons, Bob, Chi. | 1 | 27 | 27.0 | 27 | 0 |
| Rutledge, Jeff, Giants | 7 | 27 | 3.9 | 14 | 0 |
| Thompson, Jack, T.B. | 26 | 27 | 1.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Thomas, Calvin, Chi. | 8 | 25 | 3.1 | 9 | 0 |
| Monroe, Carl, S.F. | 10 | 23 | 2.3 | 5 | 0 |
| Campfield, Billy, Giants | 2 | 21 | 10.5 | 13 | 0 |
| Wilson, Tim, N.O. | 8 | 21 | 2.6 | 7 | 0 |
| Kane, Rick, Det. | 4 | 19 | 4.8 | 9 | 0 |
| Clark, Dwight, S.F. | 3 | 18 | 6.0 | 9 | 0 |
| Ferragamo, Vince, Rams | 22 | 17 | 0.8 | 8 | 0 |
| Austin, Cliff, N.O. | 4 | 16 | 4.0 | 5 | 0 |
| Lewis, Gary, G.B. | 4 | 16 | 4.0 | 11 | 1 |
| Merkens, Guido, N.O. | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Groth, Jeff, N.O. | 1 | 15 | 5.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Giacomarco, Ralph, Atl. | 2 | 13 | 6.5 | 13 | 0 |
| Harrell, Willard, St.L. | 4 | 13 | 3.3 | 8 | 0 |
| Holly, Bob, Wash. | 4 | 13 | 3.3 | 13 | 0 |
| Hutchison, Anthony, Chi. | 6 | 13 | 2.2 | 5 | 1 |
| Nichols, Mark, Det. | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Pearson, Drew, Dall. | 2 | 13 | 6.5 | 10 | 0 |
| Dickey, Lynn, G.B. | 21 | 12 | 0.6 | 4 | 3 |
| Hart, Jim, St.L. | 5 | 12 | 2.4 | 13 | 0 |
| Manning, Archie, Hou.-Minn. | 3 | 12 | 4.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Moroski, Mike, Atl. | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 7 | 0 |
| Evans, Reggie, Wash. | 16 | 11 | 0.7 | 5 | 4 |
| Komlo, Jeff, T.B. | 2 | 11 | 5.5 | 11 | 0 |
| Sharpe, Luis, St.L. | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Walker, Rick, Wash. | 2 | 10 | 5.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Jones, Mike, Minn. | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 9 | 0 |
| Lisch, Rusty, St.L. | 2 | 9 | 4.5 | 5 | 0 |
| Robinson, Bo, Atl. | 3 | 9 | 3.0 | 7 | 0 |
| Cavanaugh, Matt, S.F. | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Danielson, Gary, Det. | 6 | 8 | 1.3 | 8 | 0 |
| Ellard, Henry, Rams | 3 | 7 | 2.3 | 12 | 0 |
| Everett, Major, Phil. | 5 | 7 | 1.4 | 7 | 0 |
| Margerum, Ken, Chi. | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 7 | 0 |
| White, Sammy, Minn. | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 7 | 0 |
| King, Horace, Det. | 3 | 6 | 2.0 | 4 | 0 |
| Moorehead, Emery, Chi. | 5 | 6 | 1.2 | 5 | 0 |
| Runager, Max, Phil. | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 6 | 0 |
| Williams, Richard, Atl. | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 5 | 0 |
| Middleton, Terrell, T.B. | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Eddings, Floyd, Giants | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Golstein, Jerry, T.B. | 5 | 3 | 0.6 | 2 | 0 |
| Goodlow, Eugene, N.O. | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Kramer, Tommy, Minn. | 8 | 3 | 0.4 | 8 | 0 |
| Ramson, Eason, S.F. | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Solomon, Freddie, S.F. | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |
| Willson, Dave, N.O. | 5 | 3 | 0.6 | 5 | 1 |
| Baschnagel, Brian, Chi. | 2 | 2 | 1.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Bright, Leon, Giants | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Hill, Tony, Dall. | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Lewis, Leon, Minn. | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |

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| Miller, Junior, Atl. | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Miller, Mike, Giants | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Benjamin, Guy, S.F. | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 0 |

TEAM RUSHING LEADERS

| | ATT | YARDS | Avg | LONG | TD |
|------------------|-----|-------|-----|------|----|
| Chicago | 583 | 2727 | 4.7 | 149 | 14 |
| Washington | 629 | 2625 | 4.2 | 48 | 30 |
| New Orleans | 595 | 2461 | 4.1 | 176 | 19 |
| St. Louis | 525 | 2277 | 4.3 | 46 | 15 |
| San Francisco | 511 | 2257 | 4.4 | 71 | 17 |
| Los Angeles Rams | 511 | 2253 | 4.4 | 185 | 20 |
| Atlanta | 492 | 2224 | 4.5 | 140 | 17 |
| Detroit | 513 | 2181 | 4.3 | 41 | 18 |
| Dallas | 519 | 2117 | 4.1 | 77 | 21 |
| Minnesota | 470 | 1808 | 3.8 | 156 | 17 |
| Green Bay | 439 | 1807 | 4.1 | 71 | 15 |
| New York Giants | 506 | 1794 | 3.5 | 37 | 9 |
| Philadelphia | 402 | 1417 | 3.5 | 35 | 5 |
| Tampa Bay | 428 | 1353 | 3.2 | 175 | 9 |

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 TDs: 17, Don Hutson, Green Bay (1942)
 17, Elroy Hirsch, Los Angeles (1951)

| (5 or more) | ATT | YARDS | Avg | LONG | TD |
|---------------------------|-----|-------|------|------|----|
| Green, Roy, St.L. | 78 | 1227 | 15.7 | 171 | 14 |
| Brown, Charlie, Wash. | 78 | 1225 | 15.7 | 175 | 8 |
| Gray, Earnest, Giants | 78 | 1139 | 14.6 | 62 | 5 |
| Springs, Ron, Dall. | 73 | 589 | 8.1 | 180 | 1 |
| Clark, Dwight, S.F. | 70 | 840 | 12.0 | 146 | 8 |
| Quick, Mike, Phil. | 69 | 1409 | 20.4 | 183 | 13 |
| Johnson, Billy, Atl. | 64 | 709 | 11.1 | 147 | 4 |
| Andrews, William, Atl. | 59 | 609 | 10.3 | 40 | 4 |
| Lolton, James, G.B. | 58 | 1300 | 22.4 | 174 | 8 |
| Jefferson, John, G.B. | 57 | 830 | 14.6 | 36 | 7 |
| Wilder, James, T.B. | 57 | 380 | 6.7 | 31 | 2 |
| Bailey, Stacey, Atl. | 55 | 881 | 16.0 | 53 | 6 |
| Barber, Mike, Rams | 55 | 657 | 11.9 | 142 | 3 |
| Coffman, Paul, G.B. | 54 | 814 | 15.1 | 74 | 11 |
| Anderson, Ottis, St.L. | 54 | 459 | 8.5 | 40 | 1 |
| Payton, Walter, Chi. | 53 | 607 | 11.5 | 174 | 2 |
| Ellis, Gerry, G.B. | 52 | 603 | 11.6 | 56 | 2 |
| Nelson, Darrin, Minn. | 51 | 618 | 12.1 | 68 | 0 |
| Dickerson, Eric, Rams | 51 | 404 | 7.9 | 137 | 2 |
| Hill, Tony, Dall. | 49 | 801 | 16.3 | 175 | 7 |
| Groth, Jeff, N.O. | 49 | 585 | 11.9 | 42 | 1 |
| Suhey, Matt, Chi. | 49 | 429 | 8.8 | 52 | 1 |
| Oliver, Hubert, Phil. | 49 | 421 | 8.6 | 25 | 2 |
| Carter, Gerald, T.B. | 48 | 694 | 14.5 | 156 | 2 |
| Craig, Roger, S.F. | 48 | 427 | 8.9 | 23 | 4 |
| House, Kevin, T.B. | 47 | 769 | 16.4 | 174 | 5 |
| Monk, Art, Wash. | 47 | 746 | 15.9 | 143 | 5 |
| Pearson, Drew, Dall. | 47 | 545 | 11.6 | 32 | 5 |
| Washington, Joe, Wash. | 47 | 454 | 9.7 | 67 | 6 |
| Cosbie, Doug, Dall. | 46 | 588 | 12.8 | 161 | 6 |
| Jones, James, Det. | 46 | 467 | 10.2 | 46 | 1 |
| Mister, John, Giants | 45 | 422 | 9.4 | 24 | 0 |
| Galbreath, Tony, Minn. | 45 | 348 | 7.7 | 23 | 2 |
| Tilley, Pat, St.L. | 44 | 690 | 15.7 | 171 | 5 |
| Moorehead, Emery, Chi. | 42 | 597 | 14.2 | 36 | 3 |
| Sims, Billy, Det. | 42 | 419 | 10.0 | 54 | 0 |
| Thompson, Leonard, Det. | 41 | 752 | 18.3 | 180 | 3 |
| Brenner, Hoby, N.O. | 41 | 574 | 14.0 | 138 | 3 |
| Johnson, Butch, Dall. | 41 | 561 | 13.7 | 46 | 3 |
| Goodlow, Eugene, N.O. | 41 | 487 | 11.9 | 26 | 2 |
| Brown, Ted, Minn. | 41 | 357 | 8.7 | 25 | 1 |
| Gault, Willie, Chi. | 40 | 836 | 20.9 | 187 | 8 |
| Chadwick, Jeff, Det. | 40 | 617 | 15.4 | 45 | 4 |
| Farmer, George, Rams | 40 | 556 | 13.9 | 146 | 5 |
| Dorsett, Tony, Dall. | 40 | 287 | 7.2 | 24 | 1 |
| Carmichael, Harold, Phil. | 38 | 515 | 13.6 | 35 | 3 |
| Jenkins, Alfred, Atl. | 38 | 487 | 12.8 | 26 | 1 |
| Guman, Mike, Rams | 34 | 347 | 10.2 | 60 | 4 |
| Tyler, Wendell, S.F. | 34 | 285 | 8.4 | 26 | 2 |
| Dennard, Preston, Rams | 33 | 465 | 14.1 | 161 | 5 |
| Francis, Russ, S.F. | 33 | 357 | 10.8 | 25 | 4 |
| Marsh, Doug, St.L. | 32 | 421 | 13.2 | 38 | 8 |
| Carver, Mel, T.B. | 32 | 262 | 8.2 | 20 | 1 |
| Solomon, Freddie, S.F. | 31 | 662 | 21.4 | 177 | 4 |

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| | ATT | YARDS | Avg | Long | TD |
|------------------------------|-----|-------|------|------|----|
| Bruer, Bob, Minn. | 31 | 315 | 10.2 | 26 | 2 |
| Wilson, Mike, S.F. | 30 | 433 | 14.4 | 49 | 0 |
| Nichols, Mark, Det. | 29 | 437 | 15.1 | 46 | 1 |
| White, Sammy, Minn. | 29 | 412 | 14.2 | 143 | 4 |
| Woolfolk, Butch, Giants | 28 | 368 | 13.1 | 44 | 0 |
| Hill, David, Rams | 28 | 280 | 10.0 | 34 | 2 |
| Giusto, Nick, Wash. | 27 | 372 | 13.8 | 35 | 0 |
| Norris, Ulysses, Det. | 26 | 291 | 11.2 | 41 | 7 |
| Carpenter, Rob, Giants | 26 | 258 | 9.9 | 38 | 2 |
| Bell, Theo, T.B. | 25 | 410 | 16.4 | 52 | 2 |
| Giles, Jimmie, T.B. | 25 | 349 | 14.0 | 80 | 1 |
| Garrett, Alvin, Wash. | 25 | 332 | 13.3 | 84 | 1 |
| Hodge, Floyd, Atl. | 25 | 280 | 11.2 | 76 | 4 |
| Scott, Lindsay, N.O. | 24 | 274 | 11.4 | 35 | 0 |
| Haddix, Michael, Phil. | 23 | 254 | 11.0 | 34 | 0 |
| Ring, Bill, S.F. | 23 | 182 | 7.9 | 24 | 0 |
| Margerum, Ken, Chi. | 21 | 336 | 16.0 | 60 | 2 |
| LeCount, Terry, Minn. | 21 | 318 | 15.1 | 49 | 2 |
| McCullum, Sam, Minn. | 21 | 314 | 15.0 | 149 | 2 |
| Mowatt, Zeke, Giants. | 21 | 280 | 13.3 | 146 | 1 |
| Young, Rickey, Minn. | 21 | 193 | 9.2 | 48 | 0 |
| Williams, Bryon, Giants | 20 | 346 | 17.3 | 143 | 1 |
| McKinnon, Dennis, Chi. | 20 | 326 | 16.3 | 149 | 4 |
| Casper, Dave, Hou.-Minn. | 20 | 251 | 12.6 | 34 | 0 |
| Warren, Don, Wash. | 20 | 225 | 11.3 | 33 | 2 |
| Wilson, Wayne, N.O. | 20 | 178 | 8.9 | 24 | 2 |
| Duckett, Kenny, N.O. | 19 | 283 | 14.9 | 48 | 2 |
| Moore, Jeff, S.F. | 19 | 206 | 10.8 | 34 | 0 |
| Donley, Doug, Atl. | 18 | 370 | 20.6 | 47 | 2 |
| Eops, Phillip, G.B. | 18 | 313 | 17.4 | 45 | 0 |
| Clark, Jessie, G.B. | 18 | 279 | 15.5 | 175 | 1 |
| Newsome, Tim, Atl. | 18 | 250 | 13.9 | 152 | 4 |
| Bell, Jerry, T.B. | 18 | 200 | 11.1 | 33 | 1 |
| Kab, Vito, Phil. | 18 | 195 | 10.8 | 25 | 1 |
| Nehemiah, Renaldo, S.F. | 17 | 236 | 13.9 | 27 | 1 |
| Scott, Malcolm, Giants | 17 | 206 | 12.1 | 24 | 0 |
| Walker, Rick, Wash. | 17 | 168 | 9.9 | 29 | 2 |
| Riggs, Gerald, Atl. | 17 | 149 | 8.8 | 25 | 0 |
| Williams, Mike, Phil. | 17 | 142 | 8.4 | 29 | 0 |
| Gajan, Hokie, N.O. | 17 | 130 | 7.6 | 26 | 0 |
| Ramson, Eason, S.F. | 17 | 125 | 7.4 | 16 | 1 |
| Ellard, Henry, Rams | 16 | 268 | 16.8 | 44 | 0 |
| Ivery, Eddie Lee, G.B. | 16 | 139 | 8.7 | 17 | 1 |
| Miller, Junior, Atl. | 16 | 125 | 7.8 | 19 | 0 |
| Meade, Mike, G.B. | 16 | 110 | 6.9 | 131 | 2 |
| Jordan, Steve, Minn. | 15 | 212 | 14.1 | 28 | 2 |
| Cooper, Earl, S.F. | 15 | 207 | 13.8 | 173 | 3 |
| Armstrong, Adger, T.B. | 15 | 173 | 11.5 | 41 | 2 |
| Owens, James, T.B. | 15 | 81 | 5.4 | 11 | 1 |
| Eddings, Floyd, Giants | 14 | 231 | 16.5 | 33 | 0 |
| Morris, Wayne, St.L. | 14 | 55 | 3.9 | 11 | 0 |
| Jackson, Alfred, Atl. | 13 | 220 | 16.9 | 154 | 3 |
| Mullady, Tom, Giants | 13 | 184 | 14.2 | 35 | 1 |
| Grant, Olis, Rams | 12 | 221 | 18.4 | 57 | 1 |
| Dupree, Billy Joe, Atl. | 12 | 142 | 11.8 | 28 | 1 |
| Lewis, Leo, Minn. | 12 | 127 | 10.6 | 18 | 0 |
| Saldi, Jay, Chi. | 12 | 119 | 9.9 | 16 | 0 |
| Robinson, Bo, Atl. | 12 | 100 | 8.3 | 15 | 0 |
| LaFleur, Greg, St.L. | 12 | 99 | 8.3 | 21 | 0 |
| Rogers, George, N.O. | 12 | 69 | 5.8 | 22 | 0 |
| Lewis, Gary, G.B. | 11 | 204 | 18.5 | 49 | 1 |
| Jones, Gordon, Rams | 11 | 172 | 15.6 | 46 | 0 |
| Shumann, Mike, St.L. | 11 | 154 | 14.0 | 33 | 0 |
| Hoover, Mel, Phil. | 10 | 221 | 22.1 | 68 | 0 |
| Huckleby, Harlan, G.B. | 10 | 87 | 8.7 | 14 | 0 |
| Rubick, Rob, Det. | 10 | 81 | 8.1 | 15 | 1 |
| Pittman, Danny, Giants-St.L. | 9 | 175 | 19.4 | 140 | 1 |
| Didier, Clint, Wash. | 9 | 153 | 17.0 | 140 | 4 |
| Cox, Arthur, Atl. | 9 | 83 | 9.2 | 19 | 1 |
| King, Horace, Det. | 9 | 76 | 8.4 | 14 | 0 |
| Obradovich, Jim, T.B. | 9 | 71 | 7.9 | 19 | 1 |
| Montgomery, Wilbert, Phil. | 9 | 53 | 5.9 | 13 | 0 |
| Duinsmore, Pat, Chi. | 8 | 102 | 12.8 | 24 | 0 |
| Bussey, Dexter, Det. | 8 | 49 | 6.1 | 114 | 1 |
| Miller, Mike, Giants | 7 | 170 | 24.3 | 54 | 0 |
| Young, Tyrone, N.O. | 7 | 85 | 12.1 | 32 | 3 |
| Mitchell, Stump, St.L. | 7 | 54 | 7.7 | 17 | 0 |
| Tice, John, N.O. | 7 | 33 | 4.7 | 112 | 1 |
| Jones, Mike, Minn. | 6 | 95 | 15.8 | 47 | 0 |
| Tyler, Andre, T.B. | 6 | 77 | 12.8 | 21 | 0 |
| Young, Benjamin, Atl. | 6 | 74 | 12.3 | 19 | 1 |
| Woodruff, Tony, Phil. | 6 | 70 | 11.7 | 129 | 2 |
| Love, Randy, St.L. | 6 | 58 | 9.7 | 16 | 1 |

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|-------------------------|---|----|------|----|---|
| Scott, Fred, Det. | 5 | 71 | 14.2 | 25 | 1 |
| Baschnagel, Brian, Chi. | 5 | 70 | 14.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Riggins, John, Wash. | 5 | 29 | 5.8 | 14 | 0 |

TOP 25 PASS RECEIVERS BY YARDS

| | YARDS | NO | AVG | LONG | TD |
|-------------------------|-------|----|------|------|----|
| Quick, Mike, Phil. | 1409 | 69 | 20.4 | 183 | 13 |
| Lofton, James, G.B. | 1300 | 58 | 22.4 | 174 | 8 |
| Green, Roy, St.L. | 1227 | 78 | 15.7 | 171 | 14 |
| Brown, Charlie, Wash. | 1225 | 78 | 15.7 | 175 | 8 |
| Gray, Earnest, Giants | 1139 | 78 | 14.6 | 62 | 5 |
| Bailey, Stacey, Atl. | 881 | 55 | 16.0 | 53 | 6 |
| Clark, Dwight, S.F. | 840 | 70 | 12.0 | 146 | 8 |
| Gault, Willie, Chi. | 836 | 40 | 20.9 | 187 | 8 |
| Jefferson, John, G.B. | 830 | 57 | 14.6 | 36 | 7 |
| Coffman, Paul, G.B. | 814 | 54 | 15.1 | 74 | 11 |
| Hill, Tony, Dall. | 801 | 49 | 16.3 | 175 | 7 |
| House, Kevin, T.B. | 769 | 47 | 16.4 | 174 | 5 |
| Thompson, Leonard, Det. | 752 | 41 | 18.3 | 180 | 3 |
| Monk, Art, Wash. | 746 | 47 | 15.9 | 143 | 5 |
| Johnson, Billy, Atl. | 709 | 64 | 11.1 | 147 | 4 |
| Carter, Gerald, T.B. | 694 | 48 | 14.5 | 156 | 2 |
| Tilley, Pat, St.L. | 690 | 44 | 15.7 | 171 | 5 |
| Solomon, Freddie, S.F. | 662 | 31 | 21.4 | 177 | 4 |
| Barber, Mike, Rams. | 657 | 55 | 11.9 | 142 | 3 |
| Nelson, Darrin, Minn. | 618 | 51 | 12.1 | 68 | 0 |
| Chadwick, Jeff, Det. | 617 | 40 | 15.4 | 45 | 4 |
| Andrews, William, Atl. | 609 | 59 | 10.3 | 40 | 4 |
| Payton, Walter, Chi. | 607 | 53 | 11.5 | 174 | 2 |
| Ellis, Gerry, G.B. | 603 | 52 | 11.6 | 56 | 2 |
| Moorehead, Emery, Chi. | 597 | 42 | 14.2 | 36 | 3 |

INTERCEPTIONS

RECORDS

Number: 14, Dick Lane, Los Angeles (1952)

Yards: 301, Don Doll, Detroit (1949)

Longest return: 102 yards

Bob Smith, Detroit (1949)

Erich Barnes, New York (1961)

TDs: 3, Dick Lynch, New York (1963)

3, Herb Adderley, Green Bay (1965)

3, Monte Jackson, Los Angeles (1976)

3, Rod Perry, Los Angeles (1976)

3, Ronnie Lott, San Francisco (1981)

| (2 or more) | NO | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|-----------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Murphy, Mark, Wash. | 9 | 127 | 14.1 | 48 | 0 |
| Reece, Beasley, Giants-T.B. | 8 | 103 | 12.9 | 29 | 0 |
| Washington, Lionel, St.L. | 8 | 92 | 11.5 | 26 | 0 |
| Wright, Eric, S.F. | 7 | 164 | 23.4 | 160 | 2 |
| Poe, Johnnie, N.O. | 7 | 146 | 20.9 | 131 | 1 |
| Frazier, Leslie, Chi. | 7 | 135 | 19.3 | 58 | 1 |
| McNorton, Bruce, Det. | 7 | 30 | 4.3 | 15 | 0 |
| Thurman, Dennis, Dall. | 6 | 49 | 8.2 | 34 | 0 |
| Turner, John, Minn. | 6 | 37 | 6.2 | 14 | 0 |
| Jackson, Terry, Giants. | 6 | 20 | 3.3 | 17 | 0 |
| Swain, John, Minn. | 6 | 12 | 2.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Fellows, Ron, Dall. | 5 | 139 | 27.8 | 158 | 1 |
| Collins, Kirk, Rams | 5 | 113 | 22.6 | 58 | 0 |
| Lewis, Tim, G.B. | 5 | 111 | 22.2 | 46 | 0 |
| Anderson, John, G.B. | 5 | 54 | 10.8 | 127 | 1 |
| Dean, Vernon, Wash. | 5 | 54 | 10.8 | 26 | 0 |
| Schmidt, Terry, Chi. | 5 | 31 | 6.2 | 132 | 1 |
| Richardson, Mike, Chi. | 5 | 9 | 1.8 | 6 | 0 |
| Johnson, Johnnie, Rams | 4 | 115 | 28.8 | 160 | 2 |
| Harris, Eric, Rams | 4 | 100 | 25.0 | 45 | 0 |
| Downs, Mike, Dall. | 4 | 80 | 20.0 | 28 | 0 |
| Brown, Cedric, T.B. | 4 | 78 | 19.5 | 36 | 0 |
| Walls, Everson, Dall. | 4 | 70 | 17.5 | 37 | 0 |
| Coffey, Ken, Wash. | 4 | 62 | 15.5 | 29 | 0 |
| Pridemore, Tom, Atl. | 4 | 56 | 14.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Williamson, Carlton, S.F. | 4 | 51 | 12.8 | 26 | 0 |
| Perrin, Benny, St.L. | 4 | 50 | 12.5 | 30 | 0 |
| Watkins, Bobby, Det. | 4 | 48 | 12.0 | 31 | 0 |
| Irvin, LeRoy, Rams | 4 | 42 | 10.5 | 22 | 0 |
| Lee, Mark, G.B. | 4 | 23 | 5.8 | 15 | 0 |
| Lott, Ronnie, S.F. | 4 | 22 | 5.5 | 22 | 0 |
| Cobb, Gary, Det. | 4 | 19 | 4.8 | 13 | 0 |
| A.Washington, Wash. | 4 | 12 | 3.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Butler, Bobby, Atl. | 4 | 12 | 3.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Cromwell, Nolan, Rams | 3 | 76 | 25.3 | 143 | 1 |
| Gary, Russell, N.O. | 3 | 70 | 23.3 | 26 | 0 |
| Griggs, Anthony, Phil. | 3 | 61 | 20.3 | 32 | 0 |

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NFC statistics

| | NO | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|--|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Kinard, Terry, <i>Giants</i> | 3 | 49 | 16.3 | 25 | 0 |
| Holt, John, <i>T.B.</i> | 3 | 43 | 14.3 | 25 | 0 |
| Bess, Rufus, <i>Minn.</i> | 3 | 38 | 12.7 | 19 | 0 |
| Collier, Tim, <i>S.F.</i> | 3 | 32 | 10.7 | 132 | 1 |
| Glazebrook, Bob, <i>Atl.</i> | 3 | 30 | 10.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Junior, E.J., <i>St.L.</i> | 3 | 27 | 9.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Teal, Willie, <i>Minn.</i> | 3 | 26 | 8.7 | 12 | 0 |
| Mack, Cedric, <i>St.L.</i> | 3 | 25 | 8.3 | 13 | 0 |
| Winston, Dennis, <i>N.O.</i> | 3 | 21 | 7.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Haynes, Mark, <i>Giants</i> | 3 | 18 | 6.0 | 23 | 0 |
| Harris, Bob, <i>St.L.</i> | 3 | 10 | 3.3 | 10 | 0 |
| Hicks, Dwight, <i>S.F.</i> | 2 | 102 | 51.0 | 162 | 2 |
| Kaufman, Mel, <i>Wash.</i> | 2 | 93 | 46.5 | 170 | 1 |
| Johnson, Bobby, <i>N.O.</i> | 2 | 80 | 40.0 | 170 | 1 |
| Barnes, Roosevelt, <i>Det.</i> | 2 | 70 | 35.0 | 70 | 0 |
| Clinkscale, Dexter, <i>Dall.</i> | 2 | 68 | 34.0 | 168 | 1 |
| Johnson, Kenny, <i>All.</i> | 2 | 57 | 28.5 | 131 | 2 |
| Green, Hugh, <i>T.B.</i> | 2 | 54 | 27.0 | 133 | 2 |
| Collins, Jim, <i>Rams</i> | 2 | 46 | 23.0 | 29 | 0 |
| Washington, Mike, <i>T.B.</i> | 2 | 41 | 20.5 | 25 | 0 |
| Currier, Bill, <i>Giants</i> | 2 | 37 | 18.5 | 130 | 1 |
| Fencik, Gary, <i>Chi.</i> | 2 | 34 | 17.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Wattelet, Frank, <i>N.O.</i> | 2 | 33 | 16.5 | 24 | 0 |
| Williams, Greg, <i>Wash.</i> | 2 | 25 | 12.5 | 25 | 0 |
| Baker, Al, <i>St.L.</i> | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Milot, Rich, <i>Wash.</i> | 2 | 20 | 10.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Hall, Alvin, <i>Det.</i> | 2 | 18 | 9.0 | 18 | 0 |
| Leopold, Bobby, <i>S.F.</i> | 2 | 13 | 16.5 | 9 | 0 |
| Hill, Rod, <i>Dall.</i> | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Reese, Booker, <i>T.B.</i> | 2 | 11 | 5.5 | 11 | 0 |
| Taylor, Lawrence, <i>Giants</i> | 2 | 10 | 5.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Green, Darrell, <i>Wash.</i> | 2 | 7 | 3.5 | 7 | 0 |
| Van Pelt, Brad, <i>Giants</i> | 2 | 7 | 3.5 | 6 | 0 |
| Gray, Johnny, <i>G.B.</i> | 2 | 5 | 2.5 | 5 | 0 |
| Paul, Whitney, <i>N.O.</i> | 2 | 3 | 1.5 | 3 | 0 |
| Smith, Wayne, <i>St.L.</i> | 2 | 3 | 1.5 | 3 | 0 |
| Cotney, Mark, <i>T.B.</i> | 2 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0 |
| Browner, Joey, <i>Minn.</i> | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fantetti, Ken, <i>Det.</i> | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

KICKOFF RETURNS

RECORDS

Number: 60, Drew Hill, Los Angeles, (1981)

Yards: 1,314, Dave Hampton, Green Bay (1971)

Longest: 106 yards, Al Carmichael,

Green Bay (1956)

106 yards, Roy Green, St. Louis (1979)

TDs: 4, Travis Williams, Green Bay (1967)

4, Cecil Turner, Chicago (1970)

| | NO | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|--|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Nelson, Darrin, <i>Minn.</i> | 18 | 445 | 24.7 | 50 | 0 |
| Morton, Michael, <i>T.B.</i> | 30 | 689 | 23.0 | 50 | 0 |
| Nelms, Mike, <i>Wash.</i> | 35 | 802 | 22.9 | 41 | 0 |
| Bright, Leon, <i>Giants</i> | 21 | 475 | 22.6 | 36 | 0 |
| Redwine, Jarvis, <i>Minn.</i> | 38 | 838 | 22.1 | 41 | 0 |
| Duckett, Kenny, <i>N.O.</i> | 33 | 719 | 21.8 | 61 | 0 |
| Mitchell, Stump, <i>St.L.</i> | 36 | 778 | 21.6 | 66 | 0 |
| Hall, Alvin, <i>Det.</i> | 23 | 492 | 21.4 | 32 | 0 |
| Young, Glen, <i>Phil.</i> | 26 | 547 | 21.0 | 52 | 0 |
| Jenkins, Ken, <i>Det.</i> | 22 | 459 | 20.9 | 30 | 0 |
| Williams, Richard, <i>All.</i> | 23 | 461 | 20.0 | 34 | 0 |
| Fellows, Ron, <i>Dall.</i> | 43 | 855 | 19.9 | 53 | 0 |
| Riggs, Gerald, <i>All.</i> | 17 | 330 | 19.4 | 35 | 0 |
| McLemore, Dana, <i>S.F.</i> | 30 | 576 | 19.2 | 39 | 0 |
| Owens, James, <i>T.B.</i> | 20 | 380 | 19.0 | 31 | 0 |
| Redden, Barry, <i>Rams</i> | 19 | 358 | 18.8 | 43 | 0 |
| Huckleby, Harlan, <i>G.B.</i> | 41 | 757 | 18.5 | 57 | 0 |
| Lewis, Tim, <i>G.B.</i> | 20 | 358 | 17.9 | 30 | 0 |
| Hutchinson, Anthony, <i>Chi.</i> | 17 | 259 | 15.2 | 28 | 0 |
| NON-QUALIFIERS (3 or more) | | | | | |
| Elard, Henry, <i>Rams</i> | 15 | 314 | 20.9 | 44 | 0 |
| Everett, Major, <i>Phil.</i> | 14 | 275 | 19.6 | 46 | 0 |
| Morris, Joe, <i>Giants</i> | 14 | 255 | 18.2 | 26 | 0 |
| Hill, Rod, <i>Dall.</i> | 14 | 243 | 17.4 | 40 | 0 |
| Gault, Willie, <i>Chi.</i> | 13 | 276 | 21.2 | 38 | 0 |
| Ferrell, Earl, <i>St.L.</i> | 13 | 257 | 19.8 | 28 | 0 |
| Alexander, Robert, <i>Rams</i> | 13 | 222 | 17.1 | 30 | 0 |
| Johnson, Kenny, <i>All.</i> | 11 | 224 | 20.4 | 28 | 0 |
| Cain, Lynn, <i>All.</i> | 11 | 200 | 18.2 | 24 | 0 |
| Gray, Johnny, <i>G.B.</i> | 11 | 178 | 16.2 | 26 | 0 |
| Evans, Reggie, <i>Wash.</i> | 10 | 141 | 14.1 | 28 | 0 |

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NFC statistics

| | NO | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|--------------------------|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Wilson, Wayne, N.O. | 9 | 239 | 26.6 | 52 | 0 |
| Seay, Virgil, Wash. | 9 | 218 | 24.2 | 50 | 0 |
| Bird, Steve, S.L. | 9 | 194 | 21.6 | 33 | 0 |
| Tuggee, John, Giants | 9 | 156 | 17.3 | 28 | 0 |
| Campfield, Billy, Giants | 9 | 154 | 17.1 | 23 | 0 |
| Allen, Gary, Dall. | 8 | 178 | 22.3 | 31 | 0 |
| Monroe, Carl, S.F. | 8 | 152 | 19.0 | 32 | 0 |
| Mauti, Rich, N.O. | 8 | 147 | 18.4 | 35 | 0 |
| Martin, Robbie, Det. | 8 | 140 | 17.5 | 51 | 0 |
| Smith, Johnny Ray, T.B. | 8 | 136 | 17.0 | 43 | 0 |
| Gentry, Dennis, Chi. | 7 | 130 | 18.6 | 28 | 0 |
| Ellis, Ray, Phil. | 7 | 119 | 17.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Moore, Jeff, S.F. | 7 | 117 | 16.7 | 46 | 0 |
| Austin, Cliff, N.O. | 7 | 112 | 16.0 | 27 | 0 |
| Rogers, Jimmy, N.O. | 7 | 103 | 14.7 | 25 | 0 |
| Pittman, Danny, Giants | 6 | 107 | 17.8 | 24 | 0 |
| Watts, Rickey, Chi. | 5 | 79 | 15.8 | 21 | 0 |
| Heater, Lary, Giants | 5 | 71 | 14.2 | 26 | 0 |
| Harrington, Perry, Phil. | 4 | 79 | 19.8 | 26 | 0 |
| Caver, Jim, Det. | 4 | 71 | 17.8 | 33 | 0 |
| Ring, Bill, S.F. | 4 | 68 | 17.0 | 18 | 0 |
| Schmitt, George, S.L. | 4 | 41 | 10.3 | 19 | 0 |
| Love, Randy, S.L. | 3 | 71 | 23.7 | 23 | 0 |
| Duerson, Dave, Chi. | 3 | 66 | 22.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Harrell, Willard, S.L. | 3 | 62 | 20.7 | 26 | 0 |
| Williams, Mike, Phil. | 3 | 59 | 19.7 | 25 | 0 |
| Haddix, Michael, Phil. | 3 | 51 | 17.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Cooper, Earl, S.F. | 3 | 45 | 15.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Baschnagel, Brian, Chi. | 3 | 42 | 14.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Huffman, Dave, Minn. | 3 | 42 | 14.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Spradlin, Danny, T.B. | 3 | 35 | 11.7 | 24 | 0 |
| Winters, Chet, G.B. | 3 | 28 | 9.3 | 12 | 0 |
| Young, Rickey, Minn. | 3 | 27 | 9.0 | 15 | 0 |

FAIR CATCHES: Burruss, K.C. & Jones, N.E.

PUNT RETURNS

RECORDS

Number: 70, Danny Reece, Tampa Bay (1979)

Yards: 646, Eddie Brown, Washington (1976)

Longest for TD: 98 yards

Gil LeFebvre, Cincinnati (1933)

Charlie West, Minnesota (1968)

Dennis Morgan, Dallas (1974)

| | NO | FC | YARDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|------------------------|----|----|-------|------|------|----|
| Ellard, Henry, Rams | 16 | 4 | 217 | 13.6 | 172 | 1 |
| McLemore, Dana, S.F. | 31 | 6 | 331 | 10.7 | 156 | 1 |
| Johnson, Billy, Atl. | 46 | 4 | 489 | 10.6 | 171 | 1 |
| Jenkins, Ken, Det. | 23 | 1 | 230 | 10.0 | 43 | 0 |
| McKinnon, Dennis, Chi. | 34 | 3 | 316 | 9.3 | 159 | 1 |
| Epps, Phillip, G.B. | 36 | 13 | 324 | 9.0 | 190 | 1 |
| Mitchell, Stump, S.L. | 38 | 1 | 337 | 8.9 | 34 | 0 |
| Irvin, LeRoy, Rams | 25 | 3 | 212 | 8.5 | 20 | 0 |
| Shaw, Pete, Giants | 29 | 4 | 234 | 8.1 | 27 | 0 |
| Hill, Rod, Dall. | 30 | 2 | 232 | 7.7 | 37 | 0 |
| Tyler, Andre, T.B. | 27 | 5 | 208 | 7.7 | 16 | 0 |
| Nelms, Mike, Wash. | 38 | 0 | 289 | 7.6 | 35 | 0 |
| Bess, Rufus, Minn. | 21 | 10 | 158 | 7.5 | 17 | 0 |
| Groth, Jeff, N.O. | 39 | 15 | 275 | 7.1 | 30 | 0 |
| Bright, Leon, Giants | 17 | 0 | 117 | 6.9 | 20 | 0 |
| Sciarrone, John, Phil. | 22 | 3 | 115 | 5.2 | 14 | 0 |

NON-QUALIFIERS (2 or more)

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|---|-----|------|-----|---|
| Martin, Robbie, Det. | 15 | 3 | 183 | 12.2 | 181 | 1 |
| Johnson, Johnnie, Rams | 14 | 1 | 109 | 7.8 | 26 | 0 |
| Young, Glen, Phil. | 14 | 3 | 93 | 6.6 | 23 | 0 |
| Bird, Steve, S.L. | 14 | 2 | 76 | 5.4 | 16 | 0 |
| Fisher, Jeff, Chi. | 13 | 3 | 71 | 5.5 | 11 | 0 |
| Fellows, Ron, Dall. | 10 | 3 | 75 | 7.5 | 14 | 0 |
| Bell, Theo, T.B. | 10 | 2 | 48 | 4.8 | 11 | 0 |
| Allen, Gary, Dall. | 9 | 1 | 153 | 17.0 | 168 | 1 |
| Gault, Willie, Chi. | 9 | 1 | 60 | 6.7 | 12 | 0 |
| Reece, Beasley, Giants | 9 | 2 | 26 | 2.9 | 7 | 0 |
| Hall, Alvin, Det. | 8 | 4 | 109 | 13.6 | 66 | 0 |
| Hoover, Mel, Phil. | 7 | 4 | 44 | 6.3 | 13 | 0 |
| Seay, Virgil, Wash. | 5 | 1 | 57 | 11.4 | 42 | 0 |
| Holt, John, T.B. | 5 | 0 | 43 | 8.6 | 17 | 0 |
| Solomon, Freddie, S.F. | 5 | 3 | 34 | 6.8 | 11 | 0 |
| Harrell, Willard, S.L. | 5 | 1 | 31 | 6.2 | 11 | 0 |
| Green, Darrell, Wash. | 4 | 0 | 29 | 7.3 | 18 | 0 |
| Lewis, Lee, Minn. | 3 | 3 | 52 | 17.3 | 34 | 0 |
| Giaquinto, Nick, Wash. | 2 | 4 | 12 | 6.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Gray, Johnny, G.B. | 2 | 0 | 9 | 4.5 | 5 | 0 |

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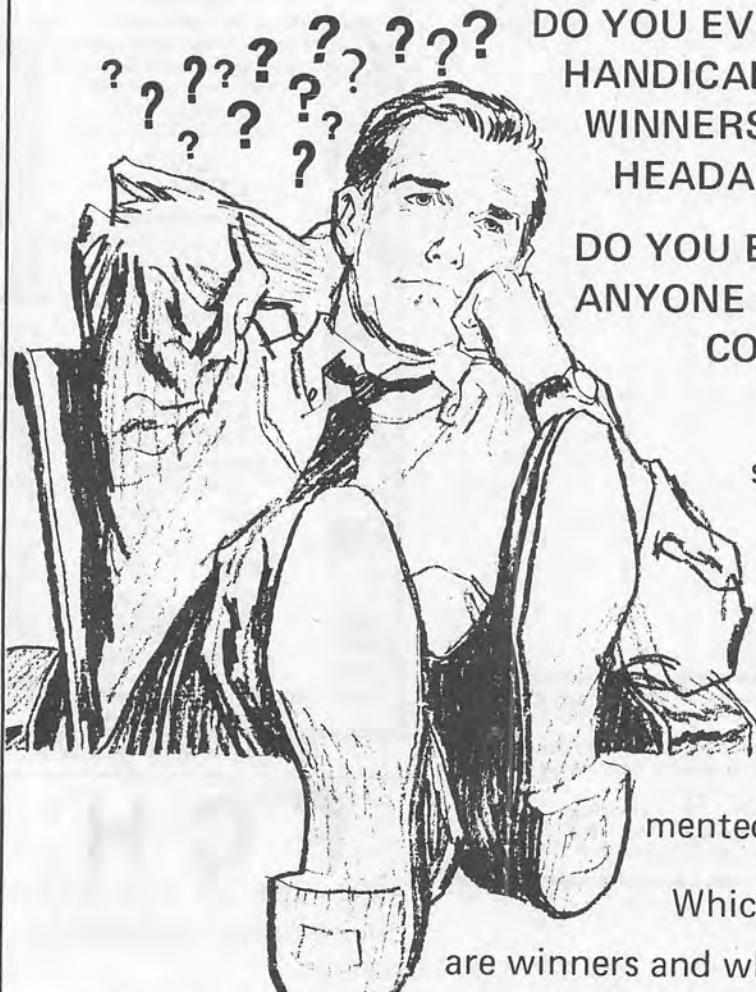
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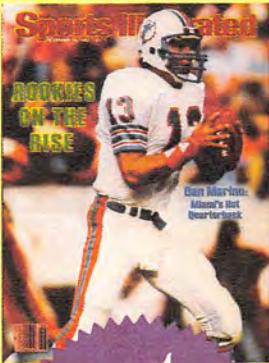
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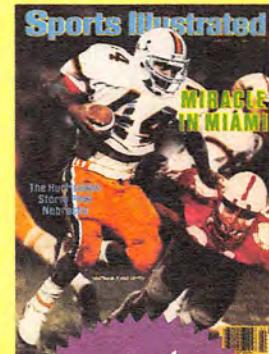
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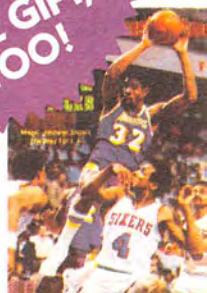
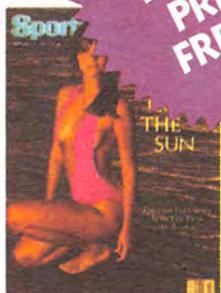
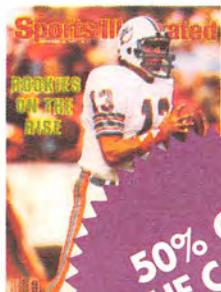
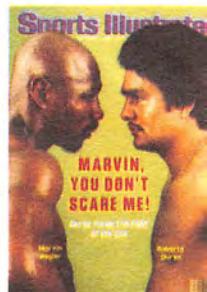
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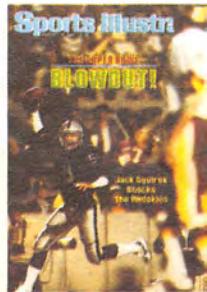
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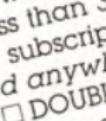


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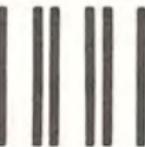
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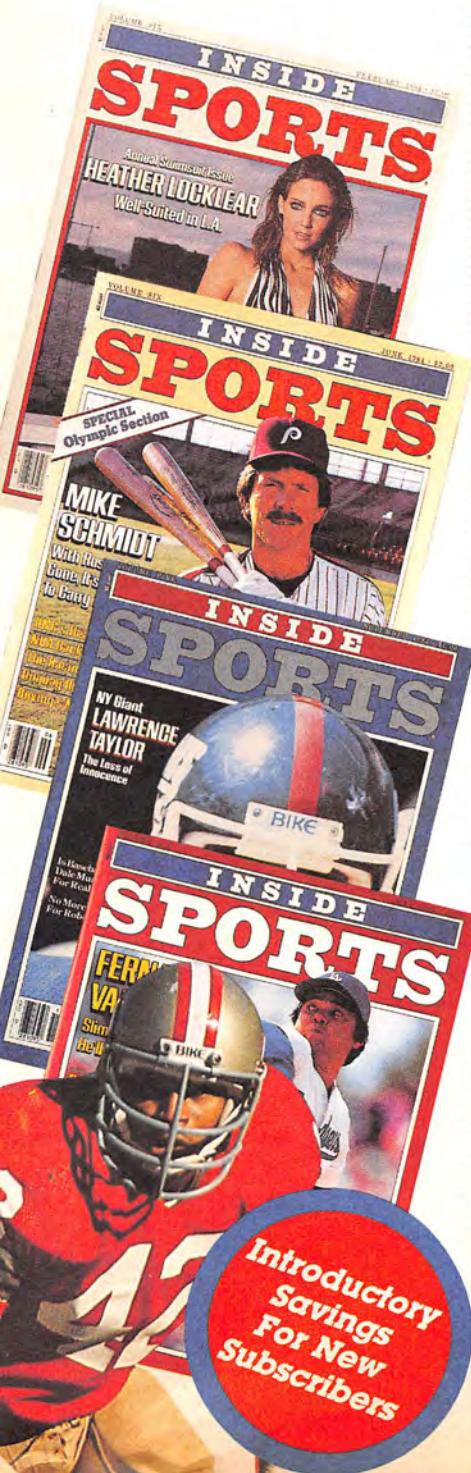
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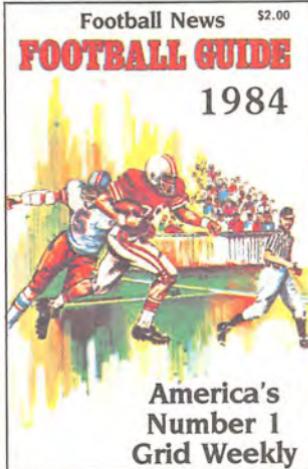
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